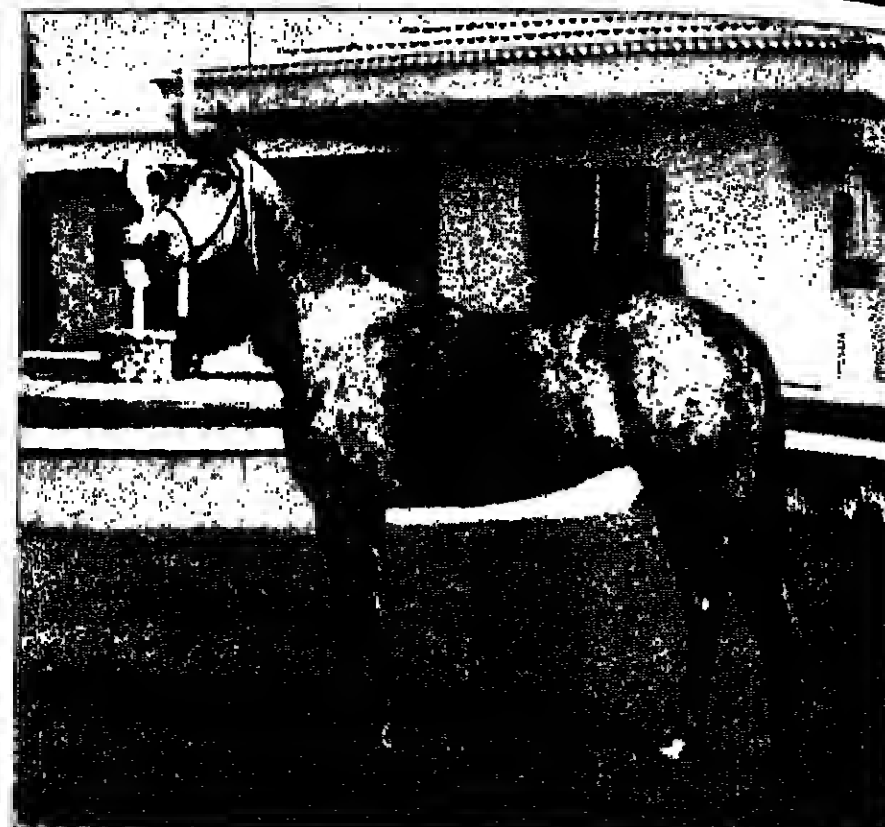


"Champion of the show," stallion Vain Hussar from the Royal Stables of Abu Dhabi



Aiesha, the first in her class

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to The Star

Showing off the thoroughbred

AMMAN - While the breeding of Arabian horses in Europe and America has long been widely and extensively practised, to the extent that overbreeding is a serious problem, it is an ironic fact that until recently there has been little interest in the breed in the Middle East. Now, as the International Arabian Horse show, held at the Royal Stables in Humar last week proves, this attitude is changing. With more than 150 horses, from the state registered studs in Jordan and from studs in Qatar and Abu Dhabi, competing in a beauty contest in a serious and professional atmosphere there can be no doubt that the true value of the Arabian horse and all that it represents of a desert heritage is finally being realised.

The one-day event, the first competitive show of Arabians ever to be held in Jordan, was organised by Her Royal Highness Princess Alia. As director of the Royal Jordanian State Stud, Princess Alia has spearheaded the regeneration of interest in the Arabian horse in the Arab World. The Royal Stud was the first stud in the Middle East to publish a full record of its horse breeding. This stud book was accepted by the World Arab Horse Organisation (WAHO) in 1980, an achievement that encouraged other Arab countries to follow suit. More recently, Princess Alia has been instrumental in forming the Arab Organisation for Arabian Horses, an organisation committed to the improvement of the breed and to the creation of more opportunities to exhibit and compete the horses.

Princess Alia hopes that the show will become an annual event, increasing gradually in size and importance. "We also hope to organise other events for pure breeds, like for example racing, show jumping and endurance," she told the Star.

Dr P. Gazder, the Stud Book consultant for WAHO said that while it is good that we now have many Arabian horse shows

in the Middle East, I would like to see more events devoted to the use and performance of the Arabian. For example, I would like to see the horses ridden in the traditional Arab way. After all, both the Western saddle and the Hackamore (a bitless bridle) are direct descendants of traditional Arabian saddlery. Arab horses are the ultimate fun ride, the Rolls Royce of horses, and one of the most enjoyable experiences in life is riding them."

The show this year however was just a competition to choose

Kingdom. As an international judge and past president of the Arabian Horse Society of Great Britain, Mr Upton felt the standard of the horses to be "lovely." "It is so nice to see so many horses being shown naturally without all the artificial and theatrical aids that are employed in other countries," he said. "This really gives the judges a better chance to see the true virtues of a particular horse."

Dr Lihnan, who has judged Arabian horses in shows in Paris, Cannes, Marseille, Lyons and

and then on the features that mark them as Arabians. One of the most distinctive features of the Arabian is its head. From small curving ears, the Arabian's broad forehead should taper down gazelle-like to a small muzzle with flaring nostrils. A true Arabian will have large and intelligent eyes set low in the head. Other uniquely Arabian qualities are its proud floating gait, and a lean, "dry" appearance. Other attributes which cannot be judged in this type of show but for which the Arabian

qualities, the Arabian is endeared to man by its intelligence, its courage, its good nature and its patience.

Under show conditions the Arabian is also judged by the energy, rhythm and balance of its gait and, finally, the thing that marks a champion - by its presence or its "charisma."

While the horses owned by the Royal Jordanian State Stud walked off with many first prizes, several of the classes were won by horses from other studs. Particularly pleased were members of the family of Mr Said Khair, who after the State Stud, own one of the most respected studs in Jordan. At the end of the day three out of their seven horses entered had won first prizes. Their filly, Nijmeh won the class of fillies foaled in 1988, their bay mare, Carazina won her class and the star of their stud, a stallion called Verinag not only won his class but walked off as the reserve champion of the whole show. Verinag took first place in the Arabian Horse Show held in Aachen, Germany three years ago.

The horses from the Royal Stables of Abu Dhabi also had a good day. In the morning, their filly Aiesha took first place in her class. In the afternoon, their glorious grey stallion, Vain Hussar took not only first place in his class but was named Champion of the whole show.

The show, which was sponsored by Dunhill, the Royal Jordanian Airlines and the Hotel Jordan Intercontinental, was run under the rules of conduct of the European Arab Horse Show Commission. All horses placed in first to third in each class automatically qualified to participate in major international shows in Europe as well as in the Arab world.

For breeders and owners of Arabian horses in the Middle East, this was an important forward as before their horses had to be placed in European shows in order to qualify for more important events.

is famed in its speed and strength which are disproportionate to its small size. The Arabian can carry heavier loads at faster speeds for longer distances than any other breed known.

As well as by its physical



Princess Alia has exerted relentless efforts to regenerate interest in Arabian horses.

the most beautiful animals - a difficult task as the standard of horses entered was considered to be high. The three judges of the show were Sr Diogo Mendez Moreno from Spain, Dr. Fadayeel Lihnan from Morocco and Mr Peter Upton from the United

Morocco, felt that about 50 per cent of the horses on exhibition were good, 25 per cent to be of medium quality and the rest to be poor.

The horses are judged first and foremost on their conformation, that is, the way they are built



The Star

Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

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Design by: Ahmad Humaid



Islamic Bloc marches on, Interview with Dr Abdel Latif Arabiyat, page 4

INSIDE The WorldPaper FRONTIER THINKING

In the past corporate conventional wisdom has been: What's good for the ecology isn't good for business. Now this is changing. Concern and cooperation are the new watchwords, as more and more companies discover that taking the environmental "high road" helps the bottom line.

Staying Alive

Examining the fate, both good and bad, of former heads of state. In the US and Western Europe, many are still going strong; in East-bloc countries, however, they haven't been so lucky.

Inside
Franz Beckenbauer challenges The Star readers in the first of a series of questions on the World Cup championships
The 1990 World Cup Contest
Valuable prizes
Details on the back page

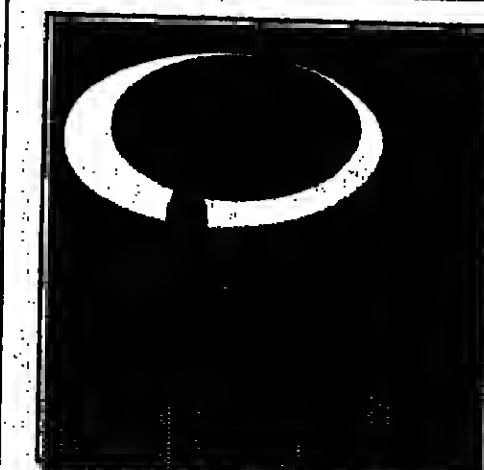
Arab Bank presents budget, final account

AMMAN - The Arab Bank Shareholders general assembly held its 60th meeting at the Arab Bank Building in Amman under the chairmanship of Board of Directors Chairman Abdul Majeed Shoman and in the presence of representatives of the Ministry of Industry and Trade and a group of the Arab Bank shareholders in various Arab countries.

The meeting discussed the general budget, the final account, the board of directors' report published inside.



Abdul Majeed Shoman



Special Ramadan Iftar section inside.
The Iraqis are coming, page 8
Where Abu Tony works, page 14

الشرق الأوسط

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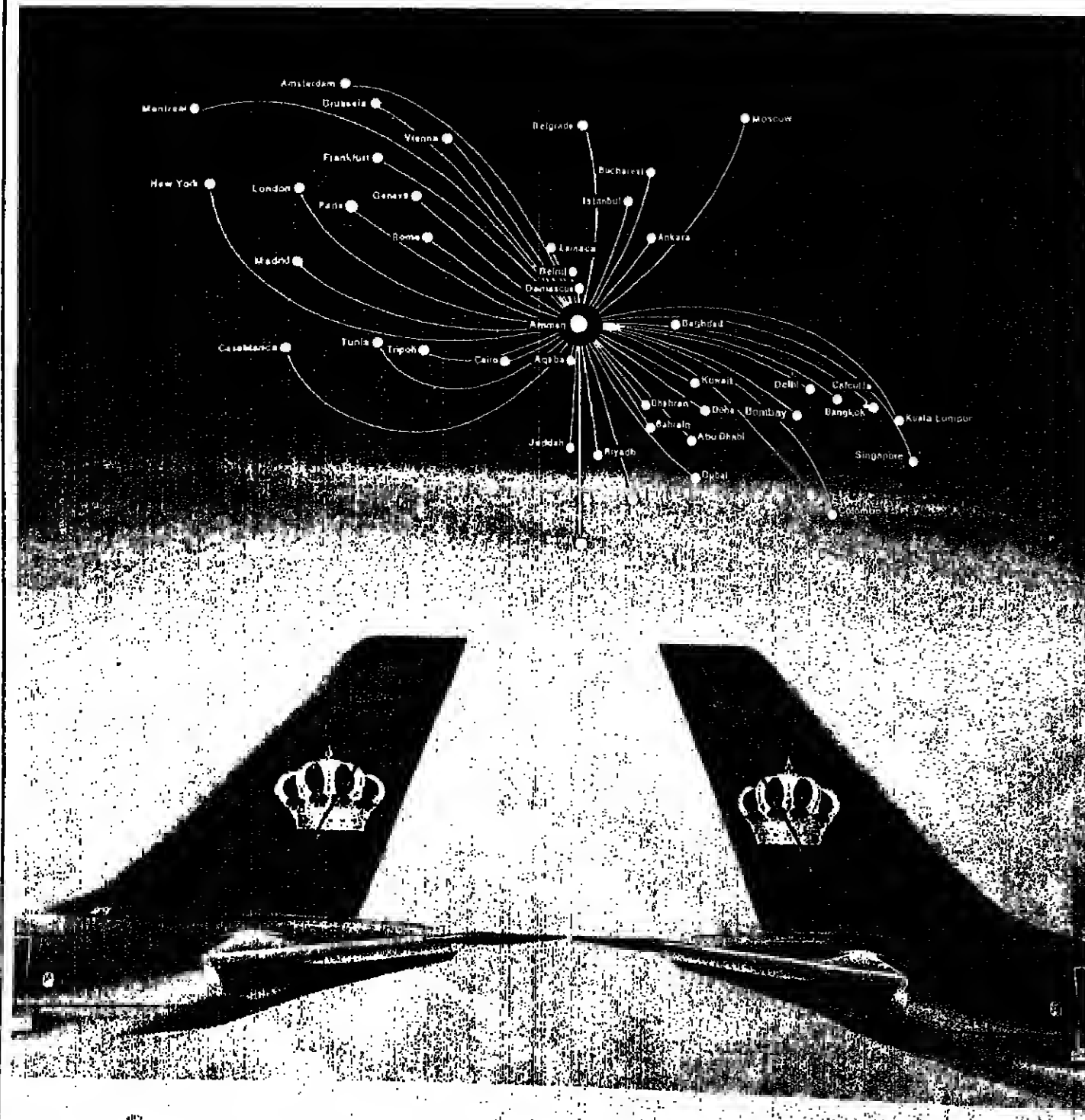
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ROYAL JORDANIAN **الخطوط الملكية الأردنية**



ACC foreign ministers hold emergency meeting

AMMAN (Petra) - Foreign ministers of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) Wednesday held a working session here during which they discussed the vicious campaign which is currently being waged against Iraq, the influx of Soviet Jews to Israel and the resolution adopted by the American Congress on the status of Jerusalem.

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz, Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Ismat Abdul Majid, and Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Dr Abdul Karim Al Ariani

arrived in Amman Wednesday for an emergency meeting. Commenting on the campaign waged by Israel, the United States and Britain against Iraq, Mr Aziz said in an arrival statement that this issue is related to the Arab national security, and that Israel wants to maintain its military superiority over the Arab world. He said that Israel does not want any Arab country to possess the deterrent that could prevent it from implementing its aggressive plans and expansionist objectives and that Iraq is targeted for being an Arab state.

On the record

● An official delegation headed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is expected to visit the Soviet Union soon. The delegation will hold talks with Soviet officials on the threats posed to the Arab world by the influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel and the occupied territories.

● Dr Abdul Salam Al Majali has submitted his resignation as president of the National Medical Institution (NMI). In his letter of resignation which he submitted to Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Dr Al Majali said that his decision was prompted by the inability of the NMI to provide high-level health care to the citizens as a result of the inadequate support that it gets from the government.

● Minister of Planning Mr Aoni Al Masri has submitted his resignation to Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

● The General Attorney has not yet obtained any hard evidence that could be used to send any former government official to court on charges of corruption.

● The cabinet has agreed to amend its agreement with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on increasing the number of scholarships and training courses offered by the Agency to Jordan.

The cabinet delegated Minister of Planning Mr Aoni Al Masri to sign the agreement.

● Speaker of the Palestinian Parliament Mr Wasim Sajjad will arrive in Jordan on 6 April in a three-day official visit.

Mr Sajjad and the accompanying delegation will hold talks with Jordanian officials and speakers of the Lower and Upper Houses of Parliament on recent developments in the international arena and issues of common concern.

Correction: In a story entitled "Sweden to help Jordanian businessmen" (The Star 29 March) Scan-Club was wrongly referred to as a "state agency". The Scan-Club is a private club that is not affiliated with any governmental institution.

'Our planet, our health'



AMMAN (Star) - Jordan will be among world nations celebrating the annual World Health Day on 7 April. This year's anniversary, sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO), will adopt the slogan "Our Planet, Our Health: Think globally, Act Locally." The celebration coincides with the Earth Day which will be marked on 22 April. Jordan will be active in both events as part of the national drive to create national and global environmental awareness.

During the past two decades Jordan has achieved considerable success in fighting epidemics, health hazards and has been implementing a policy of ensuring basic health services to all citizens. In addition Jordan has joined developed countries in spreading national environmental awareness through campaigns and programmes. Recently a number of panels have been held on the national level to discuss environmental pollution and to draw up plans for a national strategy on environmental safety, noise pollution, tree planting and other problems related to the environment.

This year witnesses the forty-second anniversary of WHO. It was on 7 April 1948 that the constitution of WHO was put into effect. Since then, 7 April is marked as World Health day by concentrating on a carefully chosen theme which relates to man's health.

The theme chosen for the forty-second anniversary of WHO is one which affects the entire population of the Globe, namely, environmental health.

The World Health Day will offer a chance to review and monitor the progress achieved so far towards the attainment of the noble goal approved by the 1977 Session of the World Health Assembly which makes it clear that the principal social goal of all governments and the World Health Organization is that by the year 2000 all citizens of the world shall have attained a standard of health which enables them to be socially and economically productive.

WHO has maintained for many years that health is directly related to development and that economic and social progress can be achieved only by healthy citizens. Today, 42 years after coming into being, WHO still faces a number of difficulties and challenges. AIDS, the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, represents a danger that has blown up all of a sudden at the beginning of the eighties and continues to spread throughout the Globe without a single indication yet of the possibility of discovering an effective vaccine or a cure for it.

The organization also addresses the population explosion and the annual exodus of hundreds of thousands of people from rural areas to over populated cities. This state of affairs has created a number of health problems which require speedy solutions, such as the provision of safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, proper food supplies, good housing, etc. It is needless to say

that the population explosion does not pose only health problems; it also creates social problems, as can be seen in the steep rise in crimes of violence, particularly in cities.

A most serious problem which endangers our planet is the pollution of the environment. Rates of pollution in both rural and urban areas, in developing and developed countries have risen already to dangerous levels.

In the Eastern Mediterranean region, of which Jordan is a member, it is estimated that out of almost thirteen million children born each year, approximately 1.4 million die before reaching the age of five. Of those deaths, about 40 per cent are due to diarrhoeal diseases. In

need for much more attention to the rural sub-sector, especially for rural sanitation.

Although the number of people being adequately supplied with drinking water increased significantly during the first half of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, there was much less progress in safeguarding the quality of the water provided.

Communicable water-related diseases, with diarrhoea taking first place are still the most widespread health problem, particularly in the under-served rural areas of many countries of the Eastern Mediterranean region. Appropriate measures are needed to protect drinking water

quality not only from microbiological contamination but also from chemicals.

At the end of the Decade, it is being realised with regret that its target cannot be met by most countries by that date. Therefore, it is imperative to continue the activities involved "beyond the Decade", it is particularly essential to promote and accelerate the provision of safe water and sanitation and especially in rural areas. The pattern which has emerged is that, generally speaking, sanitation tends to lag behind drinking water, and rural sectors behind urban, except for urban slums. Emphasis must therefore be duly given to these under-privileged sectors.

Because of their semi-arid or arid nature, the countries of this region are particularly vulnerable to the health and environmental effects of water pollution.

Even in the areas where water shortages does not exist, water pollution is a major problem. Municipal wastes of many of the cities of the region are not properly treated before their discharge into available water courses. Sewerage systems, where they exist, are often in a poor state of repair and contribute to

the microbiological contamination of surface and ground waters and, in parts of the region, ever-increasing volumes and diversity of industrial waste are added to the pollution load.

Coastal water quality is an important environmental health issue in the Eastern Mediterranean region. The countries of the region border on the Mediterranean, the Gulf, the Red Sea and the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. Many of the most populated cities and industrial zones are situated along the coastlines. As a result, the pollution of coastal waters is already quite severe in many areas and because of population growth, tourism and industrial expansion, the potential for worsening the situation is substantial and the impact on tourism could be serious. There is a danger of spreading infectious and skin diseases through pollution of coastal bathing waters and shellfish grounds.

Industrialisation inevitably brings with it the generation of wastes by production processes and, once products have been used, their accumulation as wastes. In the Eastern Mediterranean region, many industries, such as petrochemical, fertilizer and electroplating, produce wastes toxic to environmental biota and to human health. Most countries in the Region are struggling with the disposal of municipal solid wastes, in general, and there is little or no consideration being given to the safe disposal of hazardous solid and liquid wastes.

In general, little attention has been paid in the Eastern Mediterranean region to the problems of harmful chemicals and, all too often, there is a lack of awareness, or even disregard, for their potentially adverse health effects.

Certain segments of the population, such as agricultural workers using pesticides and certain industrial workers, are at greater risk of exposure to chemicals. A number of traditional endemic diseases of the region are known to have an environmental chemical etiology, such as fluorosis, and many others are strongly suspected of having one.

Reuse of wastewater and sewage sludges in agriculture, green-belt development and recreational areas is practised to varying degrees in countries of the Eastern Mediterranean region. However, in many cases untreated sewage is used for irrigation in an uncontrolled way. Such a practice raises the risk of contaminating foodstuffs and affecting the health of agricultural workers and consumers.

Food safety is another area where increasing attention is being focused. Considerable importance has been attached by member states to the subject. However, notification of food-borne diseases is very far from satisfactory. It has been estimated that for every case notified many more may go unreported. Efforts made through the Decade activities have not been as successful as was hoped in reducing the magnitude of diarrhoeal diseases, especially in children.

الخطوط الملكية الأردنية

'The press will have to be re-organised', Arabiyat

The Star: How would you, as an Islamic bloc, evaluate the first session of the Lower House. Have you achieved your basic goals?

Dr Abdel Latif Arabiyat: Evaluation must come from both the inside and the outside so as to look at internal and external forces before one can come out with a comprehensive evaluation. The first session was an extraordinary one in terms of its style. It was a new stage unknown before in the country in terms of the quality of deputies, style of operation, total freedom and the high hopes pinned by the people on the achievements of the House. This stage also came about after a long period of corruption and suffering. The level of expectations was much higher than the realities at hand, which makes evaluation difficult.

Also, we must remember that there were general sufferings by people from things like exorbitant prices, high taxes, suppression of liberties, closed channels of communication and others. Suddenly and after free and honest elections, there was this open channel and people wanted achievements to be made at once. But social change is difficult and takes time, though it is the best type of change. Still, we say we have achieved a lot. You must remember that this session was a major one which dealt with the government formation, the confidence vote, the budget law and a number of urgent laws like the internal revenue law and others.

Q: But what about your bloc's conditions on the Government? Have they been met to your satisfaction?

A: The Islamic bloc's 14 requests or conditions are essential elements to any evaluation. If we review these conditions we find that what has been achieved is a source of pride. I mention returning (confiscated) passports, reinstating citizens who were dismissed from their jobs for political reasons, abrogating martial laws and defence (emergency) laws, controlling price hikes to a certain extent, ensuring public liberties and most importantly the application of Islamic sharia.

Q: How do you see your demands on the application of Islamic sharia being met?

A: There is a start, which we consider a step forward. Nothing materialistic has been achieved but orders have been given and committees have been formed and there is an intention to go ahead. I mention the Zarka corporation project and the proposal to do away with interest on agricultural and housing loans for people with limited income. The Government has formed committees to reconcile present laws with Islamic sharia, and to study the interest issue, the reports of these committees are being studied now.

I must say that there are certain parties which work to disfigure the achievements of Parliament. They (the parties) fall into two categories. One which means no harm and it represents those whose personal demands have not been met and those people are ignorant of the process of the legislative body. Un-

der the second category came the parties which are anti-democratic because they are suffering from it. They fear that they will be scrutinised by the Parliament.

people's confidence.

Q: What are your strategies and priorities for the upcoming extraordinary session which you have requested?



Dr Arabiyat: "Our confidence in the Government is derived from people's confidence"

So we are faced with rumours, false news and attempts to create marginal squabbles. They are centres of power which prove that corruption was rampant and I mean the administrative body in particular which contributed to spreading corruption. The roots of corruption have not yet been pulled out. Those in administrative bodies disregard government orders in facilitating citizen's interests.

Q: Does the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran still enjoy your bloc's confidence?

A: There is no doubt that we appreciate the Prime Minister's efforts and his determination to introduce reform, and his commitment to his promises. However, government departments are not to the level of responsibility and if things remain as they are now we will find that none of our conditions will be completely realised. We hope that administrative bodies will be cleanest and those who stand as obstacles to reform will be replaced by competent citizens. If the Government makes this move reform will take place. Reform needs strong elements which can enjoy people's confidence and our confidence in the Government is derived from

Q: What is your bloc's position on the current peace process in the light of recent developments in the region?

A: We must not view these latest developments in isolation from previous developments. It is a play that is being acted through stages. We have tried the previous peaceful settlement and the Jews have excelled in using time to their favour in order to execute a Zionist plan which seeks to establish Greater Israel. They have never backed off and all their movements since 1948 and the fifties and the sixties and the seventies reaching to the eighties are chapters in this play. Now we are at the stage of peaceful solutions of the eighties. In the sixties the plan was to isolate the Islamic circle and in the seventies it was the turn of the Arab circle and now it is the PLO's turn to be dealt with. The final goal is to stifle the cause and uproot it.

The Arabs have abandoned the military solution and have forced the PLO to do the same. Now we are left with peaceful solutions which we think offer nothing new.

Q: What is your comment on the current conspiracy against Iraq?

A: The campaign against Iraq is a campaign against our last hope of a military solution so that we are left with no other option but the peaceful solutions which offer us nothing. It is a way to force surrender on us. Their attack on Iraq comes about because they know that it is a true depth for us and their objective is to remove this depth.

Q: Your bloc has led a vicious attack on the press regarding its role and duties. What is the Islamic bloc's position on the role and function of the press?

A: The press issue is not a real one and the message has not been driven to base. No direct dialogue was established between the press and the deputies.

The press was hasty in taking a position when no deputy meant to insult it or belittle its role. It is our right to perform our duties in secret or open meetings without pressures or blackmail. We are not against the press, but we are for laying down groundrules for the House's work.

The House is the only party which has the right to accept or reject the recommendation of the committee which was formed to investigate the leak (of deliberations in the secret session on corruption). We were hoping that reporters will understand our position before taking their hasty action. No one wants the issue to be referred to courts. All we want is for laws to be applied. We as a bloc have no decision on that incident, but there are personal opinions here and there.

Q: But what is your final position on this case? Will you resume contacts with the press over this issue?

A: There is no case. The whole issue can be settled quietly. There is no difference between the House and the press. We discussed the issue and recognised what needs to be done regarding the House's resolutions which have to stay within the House. We appreciate the role of the press which is regulated by laws and we respect these laws, which have been passed or will be passed by the House. We ask that all parties respect these laws.

Q: What about the deputies who had leaked information to the press?

A: This issue will be dealt with inside the House according to the interests of all. We are not interested in extraordinary procedures. We do not want to harm anyone. We want to regulate relations between the House and the press. We thank those journalists who had expressed their support of our position. We need to re-organise the press so that it can be balanced and unbiased. We see such bias and we think personal interests (of journalists) are being served at the expense of general interest.

Q: How will you re-organise the press... through issuing new laws?

A: We call for a comprehensive review of the Press and Publications Law so that all parties can have the right to express themselves. We want the press to be an open channel to all.

Q: Have you decided on your future steps after the national charter is put to the nation?

A: We have said on more than one occasion that the national charter should not contradict the constitution. If the charter is used to draw future stages from a personal standpoint, or to create powers that do not rest on the democratic process then I don't think it will pass peacefully. But if the charter is in harmony with the constitution we are for it after we see its content. As to our future steps the bloc in March applied for in March a licence to publish *Al Kifah Al Islami* (Islamic Strife) newspaper starting as a weekly and then as a daily. We are still waiting for a response from the government.

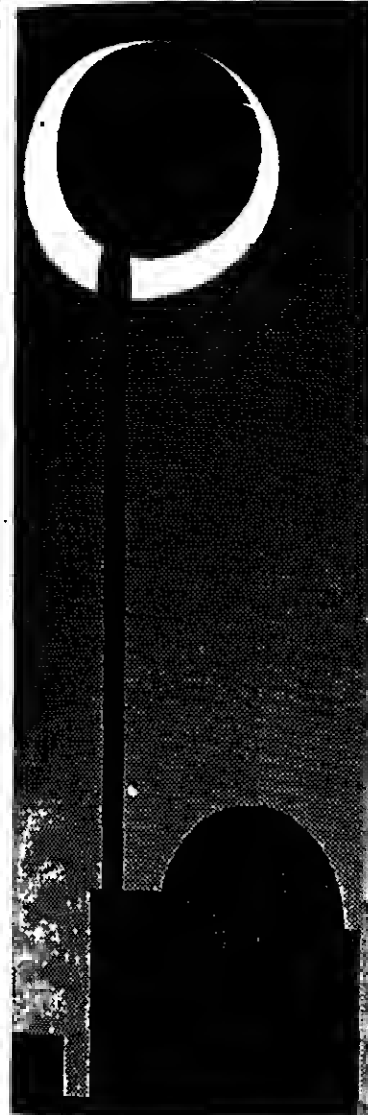
Q: What is your position on other blocs and groups within the House?

A: We are for pluralism that is in the interest of the society. But we are against marginal disintegrations and archaic styles of polarisations. We are for diverse opinions providing there is mutual respect and we believe in reform programmes whatever the sources.

Q: Have you been lately offered ministerial posts in future cabinet reshuffles?

A: This issue has not been discussed. We are not interested in cabinet reshuffles. The most important thing is that the government remains effective in fulfilling its duties.

Dining out in Ramadan



The Star's Iftar guide for major Amman hotels

● One of the landmarks of Ramadan in Amman is the variety of iftar possibilities available to both residents and visitors. Amman's major hotels make an extra effort to re-create traditional Arab and Islamic atmos-

pheres in their efforts to make iftar (and suhour) much more than a regular array of oriental dishes.

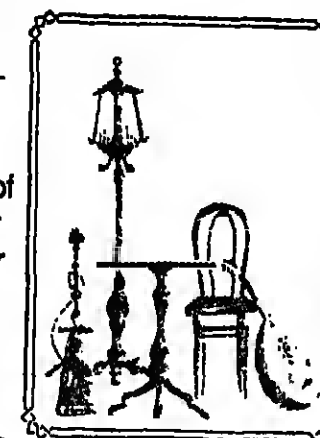
This year all hotels mentioned in this Star special section have made special programmes for iftar and after. Tents have been raised, villages built, walls painted and stalls set-up. Where? All within the premises of local hotels.

In addition traditional music of tabla and oud will keep you company into the late night hours. And if the good food, delicious sweets and remnant music are not enough to carry you into the Ramadan nights' mood, then why not order a water pipe (Arghileh) and a hot steaming tea and while the hours away.

Plaza offers tremendous variety of delicacies

● Plaza Hotel with the Jordanian community and the Arab World welcomed the month of Ramadan this year with its special Iftar Buffet which includes a tremendous variety of national and international dishes.

It has added to its rich buffet the traditional desert including *Katief*. This can also be enjoyed at the Rawak Coffee Shop on the musical notes of Radwan Umran and with an added touch a hubly-bubly for smokers.



RAMADAN

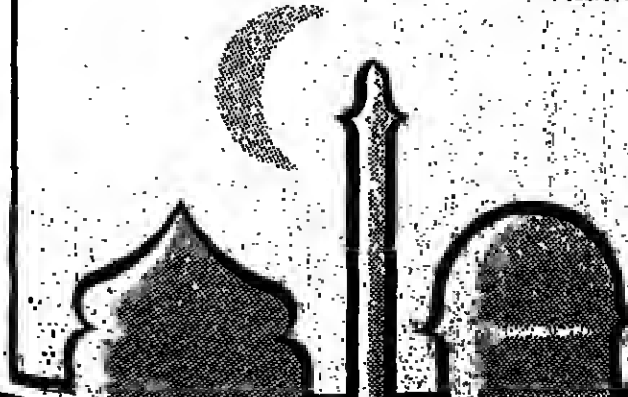
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Ramadan



InterContinental recreates traditional village

● The InterContinental Hotel held its annual *Iftar* banquet to honour members of the local press. This year's event took place at the ballroom which has been redecorated as an Oriental village with shops and stalls and narrow alleys where Lebanese, Syrian, Palestinian and Jordanian delicacies are available to the most demanding customer. In addition to this, old favourites are played by an Arab singing group which presents songs from the 1920s onward.

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Ramadan



Ramadan traditions at the Marriott

● TO CELEBRATE the daily *Iftar* ritual, the Amman Marriott is preparing its usual *souk* style meal every evening under the special tent which is installed in the ballroom every year.

A *taboon* oven is set up where bread is baked in the traditional way and a *tamarji* goes around offering a variety of Ramadan drinks and contributing very nicely to the spirit of the season.

The traditional desserts are also served every evening in what has become one of Amman's most elaborate Ramadan set ups.

The *Iftar* event has become so popular that this year the Marriott is opening it to the public six days late because of a sellout of the opening nights.

The Amman Marriott is proud to take part in the festivities of the Holy month of Ramadan, and to offer the traditional hospitality associated with it to hotel guests as well as to the local community," said Mr Frank Keenan, Marriott's general manager.

Flavours of Ramadan

The month of Ramadan has a distinctive flavour and colourful atmosphere. Among the unique scenes which are exclusive to the fasting month are the appearance of 'katalaf' (above) - a sort of oriental pancakes filled with sweet white cheese or almonds and nuts, and dipped in syrup. The popular night markets attract thousands of pedestrians every night.

In Jordan, Ramadan makes a humble presence while in other Arab countries like Egypt and Syria the arrival of this holy month is marked with lights and festivals all during the night.

Celebrate the Holy month of

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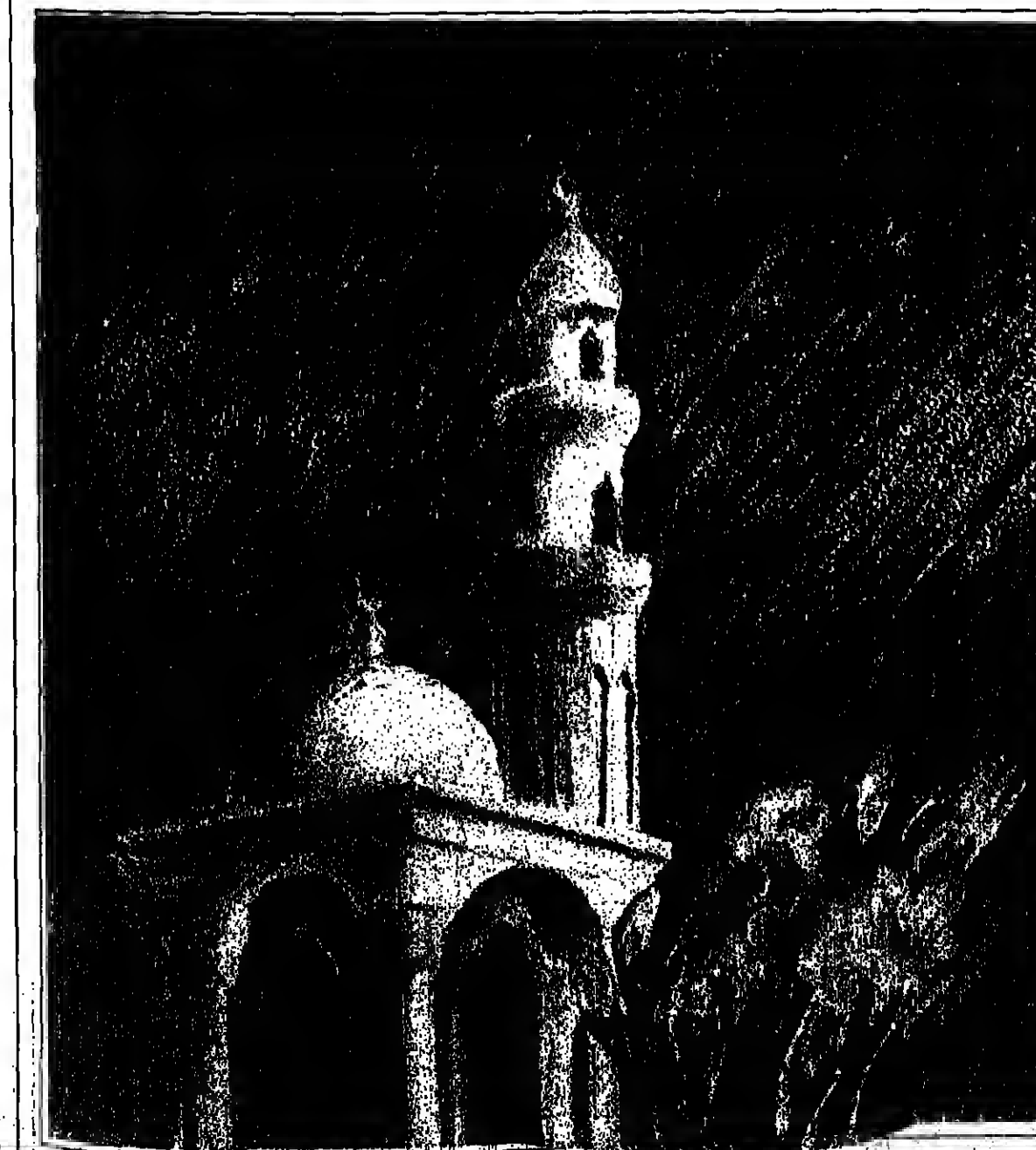
Our magnificent buffet, set up in the traditional souk style, is sure to enhance the spirit of the season.

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ECONOMY

The Star

100,000 Iraqi tourists to visit Jordan this summer

By a Star Staff Writer

AMMAN - Jordan's tourism industry can expect an added bonus this summer from the thousands of Iraqis who will be able to travel to Jordan for the first time since the Iraq-Iran war broke out in 1980. Last year, hundreds of thousands of Jordanian expatriates and Gulf Arabs poured into Jordan grabbing at the opportunity of a devalued dinar. Tourism Minister Mr. Abiel Kanin Al Kabarti expects the same influx of Arab tourists into Jordan to be repeated this summer, but in addition to this he sees more than 100,000 Iraqis visiting Jordan after the travel ban has been lifted by the Iraqi authorities.

In an interview with The Star, Mr. Kabarti said that before the Iraq-Iran war, Jordan was visited by an average of 120,000 Iraqis each year. With the limitations on foreign currency export most Iraqis will find Jordan an ideal place to visit in their summer vacations. "Already we estimate that 1400 to 1600 Iraqis have been arriving in Jordan monthly since the beginning of the year," he said.

The peak for Iraqi and Arab tourism is in June, which is ideal time since July, August and September are considered to be "dead" months for foreign tourism in the Kingdom especially in the South of the country. Mr. Kabarti's optimism is shared by Jordan's hotel managers and tour operators along with people involved in the tourism industry. "Already hotel occupancy in Amman is rising and has reached on some occasions 60 to 70 per cent," he said. Iraqi tourists are expected to boost Amman's hotel occupancy since most of them prefer to spend most of their time in the capital. This will reflect positively on the city's trade sector, which has been complaining of slow business for the last six months.

While most Iraqis will drive across the Iraqi-Jordanian borders choosing to plan for their



Minister Kabarti

own stay in Jordan, others will make use of low-budget tours to be offered by Iraqi tour operators in co-operation with the Ministry of Tourism and Jordanian travel agencies. An Iraqi travel and aviation consultant is already in Jordan to discuss plans for such budget packages with local travel agencies. Mr. Ahmad Al Aruji told The Star that while Iraqis prefer to travel to Europe, Iraqi foreign currency laws allows for \$700 to be exported annually for travel purposes. "This amount is not enough for planning a European vacation," he said. Jordan becomes an ideal alternative. A seven-day visit to Jordan, which includes two meals, stay in a five or four-star hotel, local transportation, tour guides and other advantages, will cost roughly \$400. Ten different packages are being worked out between Mr. Al Aruji and Jordanian tour operators, and these packages will be available from next May.

No less than \$10 million are expected to be generated from such packages. But Iraqi tourists will spend an average of \$200 while staying in Jordan, bringing the expected figure to no less than \$20 million. Add this to money being generated from other Arab tourists and the final figures will bring smiles to tourism people.

A recently formed tourism pro-

motion corporation brought together public and private sector parties involved directly in the tourism business. The corporation will make use of \$.5 million to be spent on promoting Jordan abroad and improving infrastructure in places of interest to tourists (see The Star 15 March). Mr. Kabarti said he hopes to increase this figure to \$800,000 by increasing his ministry's share in the budget to \$200,000.

In addition to this, the government is seriously considering selling off government shares in tourism-related businesses to the private sector. A committee was formed under the chairmanship of the Minister of Finance to study this project. A similar approach is being considered by the Social Security Corp. (SSC) which is said to be considering a proposal for setting up a tourism company.

Also, Mr. Kabarti is pressing for adjusting the zoning of Aqaba from category A to category B or C, in order to allow foreign investors to benefit from tax hol-

idays and other incentives offered in the investment encouragement law. He said the law and its amendments are now at the Prime Ministry's Legislation Bureau and is expected to be referred to the Lower House in its extraordinary session next month.

Mr. Kabarti said the Ministry has received at least 10 applications to make tourism-related investments in Aqaba's south beach among which is the building of a tourist village.

He said one of the reasons Aqaba is doing so well is the fact that Royal Jordanian's "monopoly" on flights to the port city has been broken. "Charters has enabled us to bring thousands of tourists directly into Aqaba," Mr. Kabarti said. He said without charters tourism can never pick up, citing the success of the Egyptian experiment in this field.

Currently, Aqaba is over-booked and tour operators are complaining that they cannot plan tours for the coming years unless more hotels are built.

Foreign carriers demand reduction in handling fees

AMMAN (Star) - A recent dispute between a number of foreign airline companies and Royal Jordanian (RJ) over handling fees could be resolved soon, sources told The Star this week. For the past few months at least two foreign carriers have been negotiating with RJ over handling charges, which these airlines say are too high. Sources said fees charged by RJ are double, and sometimes triple, those of neighbouring countries like Egypt and Syria. One airline has threatened to withdraw from Jordan if RJ does not reduce its fees, estimated at \$ 6000 per landing, or allow foreign carriers to do their own handling.

Saudia, Saudi Airlines sources said, takes care of its own handling and other carriers have suggested that they do the same. One foreign carrier director said that declining business has sharply reduced the returns on

the company's operation in Jordan and that if costs are not reduced the carrier will risk incurring losses. He said one of the ways to reduce operational costs is to re-structure handling costs which are very high compared to fees charged in other countries of the region.

Last year British Airways (BA) suspended its flights to and from Jordan and closed its offices in Amman. It has agreed with RJ to operate the Amman-London-Amman route jointly using RJ aircraft. The reason for BA's withdrawal from Jordan was said to be economic. Foreign carriers sources told The Star that business travel had dropped considerably to Jordan during the last two years which reduced these carriers' incomes. Many companies have had to downgrade aircrafts operating on routes to Jordan while others have cut down on the number of flights to the country.

Briefs

By Ahmad Shaker

● A study is underway to unify sources for agricultural credits. The aim of this study is to refer all debts owed by Jordan Agricultural Organisation to the Agricultural Credit Corp. Arrangements will be made to transfer the responsibilities of overseeing agricultural projects financed by internal and external loans to the Ministry of Agriculture. Total loans owned by the Organisation and the Co-operative Bank are estimated at JD 8 million.

● The Government has approved the 36th edition of Development Bonds totalling JD 4 million to cover the deficit in this year's budget.

● The Government has approved issuing a corporate bond to the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) totalling JD 6 million.

● The Cabinet has approved a re-financing agreement between the Government and the Phosphate Mines Co. through a loan extended to Jordan by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development to finance some of the company's operations. The loan is estimated at 4.2 Kuwaiti dinars.

● An Egyptian delegation will visit Jordan soon at the invitation of the Ministry of Energy to discuss bilateral co-operation between Jordan and Egypt in the field of oil exploration in the Kingdom.

● A \$2.5 million contract was signed Tuesday between the Ministry of Agriculture and Hamilton Industries for Laboratory Casework. The contract is part of the larger National Agricultural Development Project, which is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The casework fixed laboratory equipment will be shipped to Jordan for installation in early 1991.

RENT

Saudi Real Estate

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CALL SOHA Rental Dept. 677811/2

Deposit Rates

Euro-deposit rates:	US	DEM	STG	Yen	SFR
1 mo.	8.1/4	7.13/16	15.31/32	7.12	9.15/16
2 mo.	8.5/16	7.15/16	15.3/16	7.18	9.15/16
3 mo.	8.3/8	8.1/16	15.1/4	7.38	9.15/16
6 mo.	8.11/16	8.5/8	15.12/32	7.50	9.15/16
1 year	8.13/16	8.13/16	15.1/2	7.60	9.15/16

Interbank rates (Jordan):
Savings accounts 7%. Call accounts 8%, 1 week 8.325%, 1 month 8.625%, 2 months 9.0%, 3 months 9.25%, 1 year 9.5%. Lending rate (AAA) 12%.

Dollar:	DMK	SFR	STG	YEN	CAN	FFR
LAST 1.7005/15	1.5020/27	1.6321/26	158.73/78	1.1667/72	5.7135/65	

Source: Amman Bank for Investment, Tel: 642701

Rule of thumb

Saving-for-Housing Scheme

REGULATION No. 67 of 1989, issued under paragraph D of Article 7 of the Housing Corporation Law No. 27 of 1968, defines the legal requirements to participate in the Saving-for-Housing Scheme. According to the regulation, announcements for new participation should be made through the local media and to include: type of housing, sale price, down payment (not less than 2% of the total price), monthly "saving" payment and name of bank at which savings are to be deposited.

Savers are entitled to receive their housing units when they have paid at least 15% of the sale price. The Housing Corporation has six years to deliver the housing unit to the saver. If the Housing Corporation fails to deliver the unit within the six-year period, and the saver decides to terminate his participation, the Housing Corporation should pay him/her interest at the prevailing market rate. If the saver decides to continue, interests should be added on to his/her accumulated savings.

The regulation stipulates that savers who fail to pay monthly amounts for three consecutive months would have their participation terminated and their saving balance returned to them.

Article 11 of the regulation gives the Housing Corporation the discretion to invest the funds in a "Special Saving Account" and develop them in a manner approved by the Corporation's board of directors.

Regulation No. 67/1989 refers to the day on which the down payment is paid as the first day of participation. Monthly payments should be made during the first half of the month, and to a "Special Saving Account" held by the Corporation at the bank.

Matchmaking

● Industria De Maquinas Miruna LTDA, Sao Paulo 06700, Brazil
Tel. 011-492-5844, Tlx. 011-72862 IMGM

- Manufacturer and exporter of graphic arts equipment since 1951.

- Products include: Wire stitching machines for printing, bookbinding, packaging etc.; flat stitching wire for stitching scratch pads, notebooks, magazines etc.

This free-of-charge service is available to local and foreign businesses. To publish your commercial interests in this corner please tear-off this box (do not photocopy) and send with details to: Economy Editor, On-Line, The Star, P.O. Box 9313, Amman-Jordan.

Made in Jordan

● Following are addresses of important in some Middle Eastern countries that might be interested in Jordanian made furniture:

Bahrain
Al-Aali Enterprises
P.O. Box 979
Sheikha Road
Manama
Director: Adel Ali Al-Aali
Tel: 258198/275346
Tlx: 6792 AHMA BN

Doha
Director: Adel Ezzat
Tel: 23507
Tlx: 4440 AAB DH

Saudi Arabia
Mesheal Establishment
P.O. Box 4657
King Faisal St.
Riyadh
Director: Ahmad Abdullah Salah
Al Akeel
Tel: 33681

UAE
Director: A. Hamid Chaudry
Tel: 41510
Tlx: 2563 AWEDHA AH

Qatar
Director: David Wright
Tel: 390366/292204
Tlx: 1626 ETHOPE DK

For more information on importers of furniture worldwide, please contact the Jordan Trade Association.
Tel: 685603/4
P.O. Box 830432
Amman - Jordan

On Line

Gold & Silver

Gold	JD
1kg	8,500.000
21 ct	7.450
18 ct	6.350
Eng. pound	
8g	62.000
Rashad:	
7g	54.500
24ct (swiss)	9.500
Silver	
1 kg	160.000

Money

Matters

Average exchange rates in JD

	Buy	Sell
US\$	669.2	673.1
£	1100.8	1107.4
DM	394.7	397.1
SFR	446.7	449.4
FRF	117.3	118.9
YEN	422.0	424.5
(100)		
DFL	350.5	352.6
SKR	109.3	110.0
LIT	53.6	53.9
(100)		
BLF	190.6	191.7
(10)		

Consumer

Watch

We should save

ALTHOUGH the old generation's advice to "Save As You Earn (S.A.Y.E.)" was always an irritating advice to us, we feel sorry for not listening to such advice. History tells us that two types of savings became known among Jordanian families: to (save for the unexpected) and to (save for upcoming events). The first type of savings was understood as future savings to be only used when necessary. Accordingly, saving for the unexpected used to account for bad times. The second type of savings always took into consideration national, religious, seasonal cyclical, and social events. Accordingly, saving for the expected used to account for good times or programmed events.

Unfortunately, our young generation ignored all types of savings when the oil boom gave them high earnings. A Star random survey showed seven out of ten who fell sorry for not saving while they were earning. Five out of those ten used to be employed; but now they are a serious family liability.

The other three, those who were not sorry yet, believed their cars, houses and unnecessary household goods, are worth something if liquidated. Yet, if what they claim they have got is liquidated, they will not get more than 40% of the original value of such possessions, due to the fact that they have not carefully maintained what they have possessed. Sorry times are over. It is high time for saving.

Contracts & Contacts

Contracts and Contacts

- Arab Potash Co., 33/90, shuttle mobile crane, JD 15, 1/5/90; 24/90, Uranus plates and pipes, JD 15, 25/4/90; 25/90, Carbon steel plates and bars, JD 10, 28/4/90.
- Civil Consumer Corp., 98/90 - 120/90 (23 tenders), consumer goods, JD 5, - between 14/4 and 21/4/90.
- University of Science and Technology, 12/90, glassware and chemicals for the College of Pharmacy, JD 10, 6/5/90; 13/90, laboratory sets, JD 15, 6/5/90; 14/90, microprocessed laboratory sets, JD 15, 13/5/90; 15/90, equipment for the College of Dentistry, JD 20, 13/5/90.
- General Supplies Dept., 3/90, 39/90, 40/90, 44/90, 47/90, 48/90, 50/90 and 52/90. Various supplies April 1990.
- Jordan Electricity Authority, 7/90, steel joints, JD 10, 11/4/90.
- University of Yarmouk, L11/90, cardboard and supplies for the University's press, JD 5, 14/4/90.
- Armed Forces/ Tenders Committee, dry broad beans, JD 5, 1/4/90.
- Armed Forces/ Tenders Committee, Iron, wood, corrugated iron, wires and empty sand bags, JD 10, 17/4/90.
- Armed Forces/Directorate of Royal Medical Services, pharmaceutical chemicals, JD 10, 3/5/90.
- UNRWA in Shamsun/Eng. Div., 10/90, building a health training center at Wadi Is-Ser's Center, JD 5, 15/4/1990.
- Ministry of Water and Irrigation, L 8/90, well pipes, JD 50; L 9/90 well drilling treatment materials, JD 15, 14/4/90.
- Irild District Electricity Co., 2/90, digging works, JD 5, 5/4/1990.
- Ministry of Supply, 4/90, transporting 52,000 tons of maize and sorghum from American ports to the port of Aqaba, 12/4/90, instead of 29/3/1990.

This service is free-of-charge. To publish your tenders in this corner please tear-off this box (do not photocopy) and send with tender, auction, public sale, garage sale, hazaar sale, etc., details to: Economy Editor, On-Line, The Star, P.O. Box 9313, Amman-Jordan.

Industrial Estates

Fine Hygienic Paper Co. Ltd.
Location: Amman Industrial Estate/Sahab
Starting Production Date: Mid of 1976
Invested Capital: JD 3.5 million
No. of workers: 260 workers

Type of Production:

- Baby diapers
- Ladies sanitary towels
- Hygienic paper products
- Telex Carbonless paper rolls
- Cash register paper rolls
- Qualitex photocopy paper
- ABC printing and writing paper

Fine Hygienic Paper Co. Ltd. introduced recently its new low-priced product line of hygienic paper products, ladies sanitary towels and baby diapers under the trade names (Smile and Lido). This is in addition to Fine's well established brand names like FINE, BABY FINE, CINDERELLA, and the high-tech new sanitary towels (LADY FINE).

Production covers the local market in addition to exporting about 90% to the United Arab Emirates, Iraq and Syria.

The company hopes to expand its exports to Turkey, Cyprus and Greece.

Fine Hygienic Paper Co. Ltd.
P.O. Box : (154) Amman
Tel: 722251

Shows & Exhibitions

Arab Build 90

THE SIXTH Middle East Building Interiors and Maintenance Show (ARAB BUILD 90) is scheduled at the Exhibition Center in Bahrain between 12 and 15 November 1990. The show is organized by Arabian Exhibition Management WLL of Bahrain, P.O. Box 202000, Manama, Bahrain, Tel. 973250033, Tlx. 9103 EXIB BN, Fax. 973242381.

Products on display: Building materials and construction equipment; operations and maintenance; and interiors.

The Middle East Risk Control Show, an entirely separate exhibit, will be running alongside Arab Build 90.

JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES

CO., LTD

INVITATION TO TENDER

ESHIDIYA PHOSPHATE MINE PROJECT

This notice for specific goods follows the general procurement notice for this project which appeared in the United Nations Development Forum Issue 291, March 31, 1990.

The Jordan Phosphate Mines Company has received a loan from the World Bank in various currencies equivalent to \$31 million, and intends to apply part of the proceeds of the loan to eligible payments under the contract for which this invitation to tender is issued.

Tenders are invited for Tandar No. 5F/90 (2 hydraulic face shovels 6.0 cu.m. for Eshidiya Mine).

Tender documents are available to eligible bidders at the address below and will be available from March 31, 1990. On payment of JD 150, which will be non-refundable, bids in sealed envelopes shall be submitted to the address below not later than 14.00 hours local on May 16, 1990.

The Managing Director
Jordan Phosphate Mines Company
P.O. Box 30, Amman, Jordan
Tel. 660141-7
Telex 21223 FOSFAT JO. / Fax: 662290.

Our Say...

Vicious campaign

THE VICIOUS campaign of distortion currently waged against Iraq by Britain, the United States and Israel, will have to be addressed at the highest Arab level. The timing of such a campaign can only lead us to conclude that it is only a prelude to a premeditated aggression on Iraq possibly to be carried out by Israel.

The events of the last few days and weeks present a chilling reminder of Israel's criminal raid on Iraq in 1981, when Israeli jets pounded nuclear installations near Baghdad. It is now confirmed that Israel's raid was aided in a number of ways by certain Western countries.

The question to ask is why now and why Iraq? The events leading to this week's climax of direct Iraqi promise of a scorching retaliation against any Israeli aggression, can only be seen as a stage in a heightening tension in the region aiming at paving the way for a "justifiable response to Arab threats."

This has always been the strategy of Israel and a number of "unfriendly" governments which seek to keep the Arab countries dependent, insecure, denied of any major technological know-how and politically submissive. Iraq has broken this trend by surviving the eight long years of bloody war with its neighbour Iran - a war which would have been contained if it was not for those who eagerly fanned its fires. Iraq, under President Saddam Hussein, has stood against all attempts to weaken its will even in the darkest of moments and has unilaterally developed advanced military hardware which has made it a formidable regional power.

It is quite ironic that just when Israel, with British and American help, was pointing to Iraq's growing dangers to its "stability and existence", that a number of incidents were "exposed" to implicate Iraq in military nuclear industries. The purpose of this vicious campaign, coming directly after the Bazzaf affair, is becoming more than obvious. Iraq stands to become a victim of planned aggression that aims at infiltrating its political, economic and military will.

We are reminded of the fuss over the Rabta plant in the Libyan desert and of the uproar in Israeli and American political circles everytime a mention is made of an Arab country developing advanced technology or applying to purchase modern weapons.

It is absolutely absurd to believe that technological advancements can remain a monopoly of an elite group of states. It is even more ridiculous to think that one state can act as a custodian of other nations trying to develop their own technological capabilities. The issue at hand is not that of possessing nuclear weaponry or not. Any independent country must have the right to defend itself against possible enemies. In recent years, we have seen Israel not only as a usurper of Palestinian land and rights, but as an extension of archaic imperialistic dogma. From the raid on Iraq, and on PLO's headquarters in Tunis, the launching of spy satellites, the continuous bragging about a "Greater Israel" extending from the Nile to the Euphrates, and the violation of Lebanese sovereignty to the military and technological build up aiming at infiltrating the Arab Order, Israel emerges not as a victim of Arab hostility, but as an aggressor which must be dealt with and confronted.

Israel will have to understand that the past tactics of intimidating the Arabs will not work anymore. Iraq is truly capable of retaliating against any Israeli threat. As to the current Israeli theatrics of distributing gas masks and pleading with world opinion to save the Jewish state from Arab vengeance, we can perhaps remind the conspirators that President Hussein has shown that he will not tolerate threats to his country's national security and that those who dare to try may have to face more than a barrage of denunciations and condemnations.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Peace of the powerful

To the editor

I am an Arab citizen who believes that wars and violence are anachronistic and uncivilised ways of settling conflicts between nations. I cannot deny, however, that I was strongly alleviated to hear Iraqi President Saddam Hussein telling the whole world that Iraq has both the means and the will of protecting itself against any aggression. This was a tonic that we in the Arab world have long missed and waited to hear.

There is a great difference between opting for peace and accepting intimidation and surrender. Only strong nations can have peace; countries with no power to defend themselves can only watch their rights being violated and do nothing, except hiding behind the cries for peace.

Only after we build up a military power equal to that of our enemy can our calls for peace be seriously and willingly taken. Until then we will continue to play the game according to the rules of our enemy and will have no say on either war or peace.

Fadi Hussein
Amman



Postscript

by Osama El-Sherif

Alternative to voidness

IT LOOKS as if Shimon Peres has finally succeeded in negotiating his way into forming a Labour-led government which will enjoy a 61 to 62 majority in the 120-member Israeli Knesset. If unreliable news reports are to be trusted, then the Labour Party leader will announce his new government today, Thursday, and will call for a special session of Israeli parliament sometime in the coming few days.

The alleged success of Peres will be considered by Washington and some Arab and western capitals as a modest triumph for the now-stalled peace process. Peres is considered to be the leader who will send his delegation for a face to face talks with a Palestinian delegation in Cairo as proposed by US Secretary of State Mr James Baker. If this historic encounter ever takes place, then the optimists believe the road to direct negotiations on the future of the occupied Palestinian territories will be open - to a certain extent.

But we should not rejoice, not just yet. The Israeli political system has proved to be both fragile and cumbersome. Delicate and tiring negotiations between Peres and various minority parties in the Knesset have depended much on offering compromises and signing secret deals. The fate of the new government, if it survives the waveshocks, will greatly depend on Mr Peres' ability to walk tightropes and conduct himself in a manner acceptable to his suspicious partners. The ghost of Israel's complicated political structure will continue to haunt the new government and its leader and will take more than just 62 votes to keep Mr Peres afloat.

The task expected of the Labour-led government is a one fraught with obstacles and major challenges which have to do with the mentality of the Israeli public and the sincerity of Israel's political leaders. The most we as Arabs can do at this stage is to hope for the best; not much for a nation that is facing the most serious challenges to its very existence.

But we also should expect the worse. What if the new Israeli government is

born lame, ineffective and impotent? What if Peres fails to take serious and honest steps towards resolving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in a manner that leads to just and honourable peace that we all want? And what if this government collapses few weeks or months after it begins to reconcile Palestinian demands in the occupied territories?

The most worrying factor in the present status quo is the fact the Arabs have little if no alternatives to what the Americans are offering. We have seen the reaction of the US Congress to the issue of Jerusalem and the settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. Also, we have witnessed the campaign of slander launched against Iraq which has created tension and has blown away the modest hopes of a constructive dialogue taking place between the Arabs and the United States over future relations and mutual interests in the wake of the fundamental changes that swept the world in the past year or so. We have failed to put a stop, even a temporary one, to the thousands of Jewish immigrants now pouring into Israel and the occupied territories. So where does all of this leave us?

We lack an agenda, a strategy which takes into consideration various variables in a quickly-changing region. Now we are living day by day the labourious attempt of an Israeli leader to form a government said to carry within it the seeds of peace in the area. But other than that our pockets are void of alternative hopes and positions. Israel understands these realities and will make sure to use them to its interest whether we go into direct negotiations with it or not.

The crises over Iraq's military capabilities could be banked to our interest if all Arab countries rally to the support of Iraq's legitimate needs and rights. Not that we prefer military confrontations to peaceful negotiations, but the fact that an alternative to the depressing de facto situation, and to Israel's increasing belligerence being waved is like a fresh breeze in an unaired room.

A special section on
global affairs prepared for
The Jerusalem Star

COMMERCIAL
POLITICAL SURVIVAL
EAST VS. WEST

April
1990

FRONTIER THINKING

The boardroom goes

green

By ANTONY G. MARCIL
in New York, USA

TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS after Rachel Carson sounded the early alarm in her book "Silent Spring" about the environmental damage caused by the misuse of such chemicals as DDT, Du Pont chairman Edgar Woolard underlined the new spirit of environmental activism in the corporate world.

"In future," Woolard told the American Chamber of Commerce in a landmark London speech in May 1989, "we (industry) will have to be seen as all one color. And that color had better be green."

No words have better illustrated the turnaround in corporate thinking from resisting to joining the movement to protect the environment from industrial pollution. Skeptics cannot be blamed for wondering whether this is fashionable posturing or whether it truly represents a significant and long-term industry attitude.

But to those who know Du Pont and companies like it, that speech was not an isolated grab for environmental headlines. The world's leading producer of ozone-layer-threatening CFCs, Du Pont took the initiative in 1986 by announcing its support of a phased reduction of CFC use and production.

Continued on next page

The Star

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FRONTIER THINKING

Board rooms going green

Continued from previous page

Neither other producers nor many users were very happy with the decision. But it helped turn the tide. A year later the European Community and 24 other countries had signed the Montreal Protocol calling for a reduction in CFC production. Two years after that, the Industry Cooperative for Ozone Layer Protection (ICOLP) was incorporated as a voluntary association of producers and users of CFCs.

Joined by governments and national and international organizations, ICOLP's purpose, according to its bylaws, is to exchange information on and encourage prompt adoption of reliable, toxicologically and environmentally acceptable and efficient CFC alternatives. Incorporated in January 1990, ICOLP already boasts almost 20 member companies in the Americas and Europe.

This is one of the more tangible results of an awakening by big business, in the Americas and indeed throughout the industrial world, to the importance of environmentalism. It has become a matter both of good public relations and good business.

Japanese companies were among the first to experience the high cost of inadequate environmental protection measures. Since the infamous Minamata disease incident in the mid-1960s—caused by mercury contamination of coastal fish and seafood, which led to serious brain damage and deformities in both adults and children—Japanese corporate polluters have been subjected to humiliation at public stockholder meetings and forced into generous compensation plans.

In country after country, regulatory requirements have become stricter in response to awakening sensitivity by consumers, shareholders, the press and the general public. Simultaneously, the corporate "ostrich mentality" has lessened.

In the US, big business has begun to realize the profitmaking potential of pollution control. For example, both Delaware-based Du Pont and Michigan's Dow Chemical Company now treat their own hazardous waste, usually at the site where it is generated. In the old days,

Antony G. Marcl is president and chief executive officer of the World Environment Center in New York.

Frontier Thinking

Where the name got its start

Frontier Thinking in the environmental sense got its start the end of March at the first Frontier Thinking conference on reconciling economic development and environmental protection in Anchorage, Alaska, the state with a coastline ravaged by the Exxon Valdez oil spill. World Times, publisher of *The WorldPaper*, and Ecological Economics of Alaska, Inc., were conference co-organizers.

companies often hired a contractor to haul the waste to a landfill, many of which have now been declared Superfund sites (read: super-expensive to clean up). Some loss prevention projects—e.g., electrostatic precipitators that capture kiln dust, and floating roofs on petroleum distillate storage tanks—help protect the environment while also preventing saleable product from escaping into the atmosphere.

Recycling programs can also be moneymakers. The Reynolds Company recycles aluminum cans at an 80 percent energy savings over aluminum smelted from bauxite ore. Through a series of disposal and treatment programs, plus recycling and re-use efforts, the automotive division of Allied-Signal (a diversified manufacturing company based in New Jersey) reduced its hazardous waste generation from 536 tons in 1984

that legislation and regulations that rely solely on a command-and-control approach have not had the desired effect.

"There is a growing recognition that traditional approaches—which stress treatment and disposal after pollution has been generated—have not adequately dealt with existing environmental problems," said US Environmental Protection Administrator William K. Reilly in testifying to the House Subcommittee on Transportation and Hazardous Materials last year. "Nor will they deal with emerging problems such as global warming, acid rain and stratospheric ozone depletion."

Fortunately, the private sector in free-market economies has not limited itself to doing only what command-and-control regulations require. They have begun to take initiatives of their own, and have learned from the massive retrofitting expenditures of the 1970s and early 1980s that production facilities can be both cost-efficient and

the system and flag reports or look at the status of certain plans already being implemented. The system, based upon self-policing, allows line managers to determine how to accomplish goals and involves corporate management only when exceptions occur.

Dow Chemical's Waste Reduction Always Pays and Minnesota-based 3M's Pollution Prevention Pays—both highly successful, award-winning programs—depend not only upon line management but on every production worker. Corporate management alone could not make either program the success it is.

A few years ago, environmental groups with ties to the corporate world were, in a sense, pariahs. It was considered heresy to work with industry. Now it's seen as both acceptable and essential.

Despite a growing commitment, however, industry and the rest of the world face increasingly tough environmental problems. One that has yet to be adequately addressed is groundwater contamination. Although the problem was identified and studied as much as 30 to 40 years ago, much remains to be done.

In earlier days, everyone from gasoline station owners to major corporations put storage tanks underground to save space and to protect tank temperatures from rapid fluctuation. Explosive chemicals, for example, were thought to pose less of a danger when stored underground. More and more firms are now realizing that the leakage which occurs when steel tanks begin to rust is more serious than any of the original considerations. The corporate answer so far has been to move away from underground storage. In some cases concrete or plastic-lined tanks are being built, with drainage systems established beneath the tanks to capture any leakage and take it to wastewater treatment plants.

But for countless individually owned gas stations across the US and elsewhere, it's not that simple. The cost of environmental remediation can be enormous. Communities are having to grapple with serious issues, such as how much contamination is acceptable before they take steps to address the problem.

All forms of pollution represent the loss of a purchased raw material and a liability that has to be safely disposed of or cleaned up later. As industrialists around the world discover there is money to be made (i.e., losses avoided) with sound environmental management, new plants and new processes within old plants will be designed to minimize waste and prevent pollution. As politicians become aware of the trend, they will start to set policy that stimulates and motivates all individuals and nations to internalize sound environmental management principles and not wait on others to do it for them. They will even come to act upon the already established fact that environmental protection and economic development are inextricably linked, not fundamentally opposed to each other.

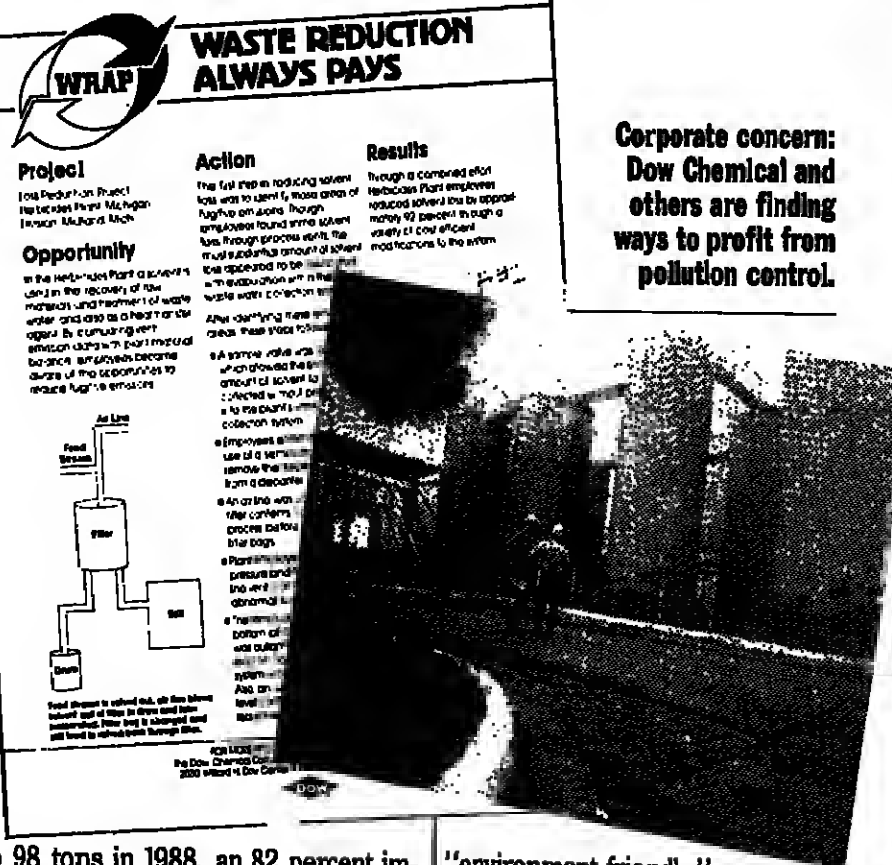
"environment-friendly."

For example, Tenneco Inc., a Houston, Texas-based oil and gas company, discovered that wetlands constituted a cost-efficient, and natural, method for treating biodegradable wastewater. They created or reestablished wetlands in the areas surrounding a number of their new and existing plants, resulting in savings for themselves as well as a new and stable environment for wildlife. Campbell Food Company has adopted similar land-treatment techniques at some of their plants.

There is, however, a fundamental difference in approach between those companies that fully integrate environmental considerations into management practices at all levels and those for which environmental activities remain the responsibility of a corporate group.

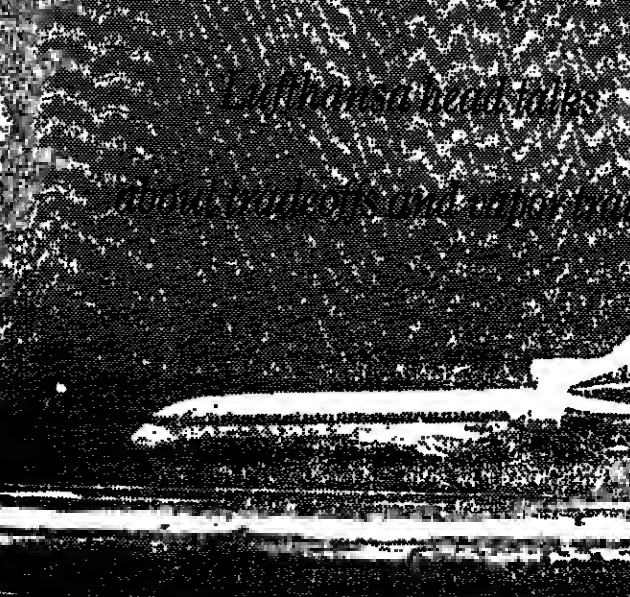
Among the first group, Los Angeles-based Occidental Petroleum operates an on-line monitoring program in which production managers enter their own reports on some 15 categories of environmental information not limited to compliance issues. Anyone can tap into

Corporate concern:
Dow Chemical and others are finding ways to profit from pollution control.



FRONTIER THINKING

The price
of protection
must be
shared by all



By HEINZ RUHNAU
in Frankfurt, W. Germany

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION is nothing new. In ancient times the Romans cut down huge forests around the Mediterranean in order to build their ships. Today, 2,000 years later, the results are still visible.

In the Middle Ages there were dead rivers and forests, destroyed by the fumes of primitive foundries. The industrial revolution has multiplied man's capabilities, including the ability to destroy his environment. By the end of the 20th century local damage has become a global threat.

At the same time that our national economies have become increasingly intertwined, we are also becoming more and more dependent on each other in ecological terms. Nitrogen oxide and sulphur dioxide in the air do not stop at borders, nor do heavy metals in our rivers. Those who do not consider the ecological consequences of their actions are living on credit. Today, nobody can escape our common responsibility—no country, no individual and no business enterprise.

Above all, it is the economy that stands in the line of fire when the countries of the Western world discuss the environment. Again and again the "causer" principle is brought up:

Heinz Ruhnau is chairman of the board of Luftansa German Airlines. This article is excerpted from remarks prepared for a WorldPaper seminar, "Pollution, Perestroika and Politics," in Moscow last November.

Whoever pollutes the environment is responsible for repairing the damage. In most cases we overlook the fact that business enterprises are indeed multiple sources of environmental damage, but not the primary cause. By asking for specific products and services, all of us are in fact the true cause.

Thus we must all share in paying for the protection of the environment and for repairing the damage already done. To some extent the state will act as a distributor. In that case the bill will come in the form of taxes. But as a rule we will all have to pay for a healthier environment, over and above the price for goods and services.

For example, in the Federal Republic of Germany leaky sewers are causing the seepage of several million cubic meters of waste water into the ground each year. In the long run, this endangers the drinking water. In coming years nearly the entire system will have to be rebuilt. The estimated cost: 10 billion marks (US\$6 billion). Private

households as well as industrial consumers will ultimately have to foot the bill, over and above the price of water. The clearing of old garbage dumps, the purification of air and water, the long-term replacement of fossil energy sources—all this will cost thousands of billions of dollars worldwide in the years to come. Only the modern industrial society with its enormous revenues will be in the position to raise these monies and produce the technological means that can lead to a future world living.

It will require great effort to raise these monies. For those of us who live in the industrialized nations it will be very difficult. But developing countries and those on the threshold will have even greater problems, as they are suffering from an undiminished increase in population. It is therefore all the more important that we manage our "ecopolity" conscientiously.

We must employ our scarce capital resources in such a way as to achieve the greatest possible positive results. Common sense dictates this. Moreover, it is our moral obligation. Money spent for the wrong purposes will at best be lacking where it is sorely needed. At worst we would inflict additional damage.

In the field of aviation, for example, some scientists are fearful that airplane vapor trails could contribute to a worsening of the greenhouse effect. However, data on the frequency of vapor trails and their effect on radiation are not available. How shall we conduct ourselves under these circumstances? In the worst case we would have to reduce our altitude to prevent the formation of additional clouds. At the present state of technology air traffic would be strangled for lack of space. Yet another factor is even more disturbing—we would use between 8 to 10 percent more fuel. With that, all our hard-earned savings in recent years would be lost.

There are many situations such as these. Therefore, our strategy must be to measure, to analyze and to act—exactly in that order. The debate on the environment must be stripped of its emotional elements. Moral indignation and the pressures of daily politics must not become the yardstick for our actions. The realization that much must be done should not tempt us to resort to the pork-barrel principle, doing a little here, a little there, while ultimately achieving nothing.

New names and faces

THREE NEW PUBLICATIONS have recently joined the existing list of 21 national newspapers and magazines that currently carry *The WorldPaper* as an international supplement (or supplement).

La Roca is an independent Spanish-language daily in Santiago de Chile, founded in 1987 by Emilio Rillo, one of Latin America's leading journalists.

The Jerusalem Star is a respected political weekly in Amman, Jordan, which has recently received its publishing license after a two-year hiatus.



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Where business fell down

After 5 years, Bhopal victims await compensation

BY ARUN CHACKO
in New Delhi, India

SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD Sunil Kumar was 12 when he was orphaned that fatal morning in early December 1984. Colorless methyl isocyanate (MIC) floated into his family's Bhopal slum home from the nearby Union Carbide factory. He lost seven family members in all; he, a sister and a brother survived.

On the fifth anniversary of the horrendous Bhopal gas tragedy—which by official count has so far caused the deaths of 3,598 people, not to mention tens of

thousands permanently disabled—Sunil Kumar led a rally of "Children against Carbide." They demanded immediate payment of compensation, including accrued interest, to the survivors and the injured. Some 300 were detained for trying to seize the Carbide plant.

Five years after the tragedy and despite a growing sensitivity among businesses to environmental ills, full compensation for the victims in one of the world's worst industrial pollution accidents is still far away. So far the Indian government has made a total relief payment of US\$600 to each of the next of kin of about 3,200 of the deceased.

The new government of Prime Minister V.P. Singh announced March 5 it will pay an equivalent of \$220 million over the

Checkups—little cash—for survivors.

next three years to about 500,000 residents of the 36 municipal wards affected by the toxic gas leak. That amounts to about \$12 per month per person.

The change in government in Delhi in December has contributed to the delay in releasing funds. The new government's announcement of the three-year payment came after a government allied to it was installed in Madhya Pradesh, where Bhopal is located. The state government will distribute the funds.

The former Congress Party government of Rajiv Gandhi had come to a controversial understanding on compensation a year ago after several years of haggling, deceit and evasion of responsibility, not to mention complex and bloody-minded litigation on all sides.

India's Supreme Court ordered on February 14, 1989 a final settlement of \$470 million, to be paid jointly by the Union Carbide Corporation and the government of India.

The price was cheap for such a catastrophe. The Indian government had initially sued the company for \$3.3 billion. The court order caused the company's share prices to jump \$2.

The compensation money was immediately made available to the Indian government. A year later that money had still not reached the hapless victims.

Of the living dead—those debilitated for life by the disaster—only about half have received a paltry \$100 in assistance.

One of these, Syed Mansur Ali, an auto rickshaw driver, is now unable to look after his wife and children. Amima Bai, a widow with four children, took a hefty loan in anticipation of substantial compensation, which has yet to arrive. Now, unable to work for health reasons, she cannot repay the loan.

Of all the cases of corporate insensitivity to victims of industrial accidents, Union Carbide's actions rank at the top. Coupled with the incompetence of the Indian government, they have made a tragic situation even worse.

Survivors remain skeptical. Asked about the compensation, a quickly matured Sunil Kumar shrugged his shoulders. Who knows? he said. Let us see when the money comes.

Global greening

Here a little, there a little

AT THE TIME of the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, only 26 countries in the world had environmental protection agencies. Ten years later, that figure rose to about 144. Today, 150 to 160 countries have established agencies to handle environmental concerns and regulations. And a 20th anniversary conference—being called "Stockholm II"—is scheduled to take place in Sao Paulo, Brazil in June 1992.

While the US and its EPA may have started the ball of environmental accountability rolling, the surge in governmental and private-sector interest in sound environmental management practices is going on globally. In certain instances, such as lead exposure, New Zealand and other countries have surpassed the US in the strictness and broad reach of their regulations and controls.

In other areas:

- Hungary and surrounding countries have expressed close interest in the Regional Environment Center, a nongovernmental, non-advocacy organization scheduled to open later this summer in Budapest. The center, whose formation is due to the positive response of US President George Bush to local pressures, will provide a place for dialogue and the exchange of waste minimization and pollution prevention technology between government and industry. The US has pledged US\$5 million in support for the center, and the Hungarian government has also announced financial aid.

- In 1977 The World Environment Center (WEC) founded the International Environment Forum, a program that brings environmental ministers and senior corporate environmental officers together for off-the-record discussions of current and future environmental issues. From an initial 13 companies, the Forum today numbers 56 multinational companies representing 12 industrial sectors and three continents. Many lend their environmental expertise to help solve problems in developing countries.

The Forum's pattern of growth shows how industry attitudes have changed over the last two decades. The number of participants increased to 28 in the late 1970s and early 1980s, then to 56 in recent years. The Forum's focus has shifted from local and regional issues to global environmental concerns.



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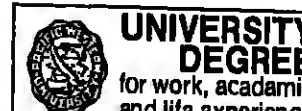


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BY HODDING CARTER
in Washington DC, USA

That helps explain why ex-presidents have historically been wasted assets, men of experience and, at least occasionally, talent forced by the peculiarities of the US system out of all but the most ceremonial forms of political life.

Today, thanks to good fortune and longevity, the United States has what might be considered an embarrassment of riches when it comes to these somewhat problematic public figures. Their behavior out of office is a study in contrasts. It is also distinctively different from the way many of their predecessors behaved.

Not that all of them went quietly into the shadowed wings. One, John Quincy Adams, died while serving in the House of Representatives. Several, including Theodore Roosevelt, heard what they thought was the voice of the people and decided to run again. None succeeded. William Howard Taft, not an outstanding president, became a credible chief justice of the Supreme Court after being beaten for re-election by Woodrow Wilson in 1912.

But most of those who did not die in office, a rather large number in itself (eight), retired or were retired by the voters to relative obscurity. Ours is not a parliamentary system, so there is no guaranteed place in the opposition's ranks for a fallen president. Even in the days when political parties meant more than they do today, a beaten president was about as popular at a party convention as the proverbial bastard son at the wedding feast. The handful who left office voluntarily and on their feet, men such as Dwight D. Eisenhower, usually retained tremendous public stature, but even they were most often used by their successors and their parties in ritual rather than meaningful ways.

Which brings us back to 1990, a year in which there are four living ex-presidents. None has permanently vanished. All, in fact, are quite visible. And while four is not a record—for a brief period in Abraham Lincoln's first administration there were five—it is the most in this century.

One of these four, Richard Nixon, quit in disgrace one jump ahead of impeachment and probable conviction. Two others, Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter,

Hodding Carter, a former State Department spokesman in the Carter administration, is a *WorldPaper* associate editor.

were defeated after one term or less—in Ford's case, after serving the remaining two years of Nixon's term—and left behind a capital city which thought little of their stewardship. The most recent, and oldest, Ronald Reagan, was the first two-term president since Eisenhower and was a popular man within his party and across the country when he stepped down on January 20, 1989.

The four almost literally have nothing in common but their former office. Their presidencies differed markedly, and their lives as ex-presidents have been equally dissimilar. Some have gone looking, openly and unashamedly, for top-dollar payoffs for their prominence. One has pursued a series of public service goals. One has sought public rehabilitation with single-minded, and increasingly successful, intensity.

(None, incidentally, had to fear penury when he left office. Tax funds last year underwrote US\$15 million for the ex-



Reagan at the podium.

presidents' pensions and other benefits, the cost of their staffs and the Secret Service protection established by Congress. Another \$14 million in public funds was spent on their three presidential libraries, plus the seven already existing, a figure which will rise when the Reagan library opens next year. Those libraries also provide them with office space and staff support.)

It is too early to assess fully the kind of public role Ronald Reagan will play. But since at age 79 there is at least actuarial reason to believe he will not be active much longer, what we see today is probably what we will get. And what we see is a man cashing in on his former office, not merely in the traditional ways, such as presidential memoirs, but in show business ways as well. Last year



Nixon in China

What about presidents
in a more realistic public
opinion environment.
They will find few titles for
the leaders who worked
under the deposed
leaders of Eastern
Europe's Communist
states. For a look at the
fate of the latter, as well
as that of former West
European leaders, see
the following pages.



Carter in Nicaragua

ARAB BANK

Dear Shareholders

In the 1989, Arab Bank started the sixteen year of its operation. This institution was an idea which its late founder, Mr. Abdulrahman Shomem had dreamed about when he was in the United States of America. He firmly believed that he would return to his homeland to establish a pioneering financial institution to serve all the Arab countries. In fact, realize his dream before he passed away. Our institution has now spread to every part of the world and we are still committed to the fulfillment of its mission in this closing decade of the twentieth century.

Our institution has always been a major pillar of the Arab economy through its constructive policy, its achievements, and its successful adaptation to changing circumstances. It has also financially linked the Arab countries with the rest of the world through its network of branches and institutions in forty-five countries worldwide.

I have the greatest pleasure to welcome you to the 6th Meeting of our General Assembly and briefly review with you last year's business environment as well as our Bank's major achievements.

Business Environment

In 1989, there continued to be economic hardship in Jordan, characterized mainly by a decrease in its foreign currency reserves, which led to a slight decline in the exchange rate of the dinar. Moreover, the

Government was unable to meet its external debt obligations.

Government was unable to meet its external debt obligations and was forced to reschedule most of them. To prevent continuous deterioration, the Government and the monetary authorities drew up economic plans to reduce the deficit in the budget and the balance of payments. These plans also aim at developing national capacities and self-reliance, building up foreign exchange reserves as well as restoring economic and monetary stability.

Early in 1989 the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) was formed with the membership of Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen, a historical event on which more than twenty million people are proudly high hopes and expectations. His Majesty King Hussein described this economic union as: "a major milestone in the effort to integrate the Arab world."

As far as the Arab world is concerned, the steady price of oil throughout 1989 helped the oil-producing countries to meet their financial obligations. The Arab world also experienced a number of positive changes which we hope will be reflected in the general economic situation, and add to political stability, especially the restoration of the legal rights of the Palestinian people.

On the many unexpected changes which swept through Eastern Europe in 1989 are attempts to estimate the military tension between East and West. The human race now faces new challenges to

achieve economic prosperity
and ecological stability

achieve economic prosperity and ecological stability. Economic growth in most of the industrialised countries was relatively modest during the past year, and the rate of growth of GNP fluctuated between 2 and 4%. The central banks of those countries raised the interest rate of their currencies to suppress the risk of inflation, and partially succeeded in stabilizing the fluctuations in the exchange rates of their currencies.

Operational Performance of the Bank

In 1989, the Bank accomplished impressive results in revenue and assets. It was also able to increase its prime quality loan portfolio to levels maintained in the past. In briefing you on the most important achievements, I would like to assure you that we remain faithful to the principles laid down by the late Mr. Aroldulfamede Stenman and are endeavouring to fulfill the mission he envisioned.

The net income of the Bank, after deduction of all expenses, allowances and taxes, reached JD 52.3 million, which is an increase of JD 17.2 million and 48.8% over the total of 1988. The income of the Group was US \$98.1 million compared to US \$86.8 million in 1988. These positive figures have been achieved for the first time in the history of the Bank.

The increase in the Bank's assets was also impressive in that they reached, at the end of 1989, around JD 6,304 million compared to JD 4,571 million in 1988. The devalua-

tion of the Jordanian dinar contributed to this increase.

tion of the Jordanian dinar contributed to this increase. It is noteworthy to mention that this positive growth has continued even after disconcerting the effect of the devaluation of the dinar. Moreover, the Bank's external sources, deposits and other accounts increased by JD 5,917 million, or 38.7% to JD 15,917 million, as for the Arab Bank Group, the assets, by the end of 1988 were around U.S.\$15 billion, hence slightly decreased. You will observe from the financial report in your hands that in 1988 the Bank pursued its positive policy and drove it to manage its funds efficiently. Its total portfolio grew to JD 2,354 million compared to JD 1,587 million on 31st December 1988.

The Bank also offered new services and products, the most important of which were several investment funds created through its regional branch in London. Furthermore, it reinforced its Islamic banking investments, and made many other new financial services available throughout its branches. Our interest in offering Islamic Banking investment services to our international branches, especially in London and New York, results from our commitment to our clients and our dedication in responding to their needs.

The Board of Directors has proposed to the General Assembly the distribution of JD 7.7 million in cash dividends, which represents 33% of the paid-up capital, and the allocation of the bal-

balance of the distributable income to the disclosed re-

ance of the distributable income to the shareholders, and to come to the disclosed reserves. Accordingly, the disclosed shareholders' equity in the Bank's financial statements at the end of 1989 reached JD 252.5 million compared to JD 208 million at the end of 1988. The Arab Bank Group's shareholders' equity amounted to U.S. \$192.5 million compared to U.S. \$170.5 million in 1988. The growth of shareholders' equity was negatively affected by the decline in the exchange rate of the Jordanian dinar. While the Bank's assets and deposits were rapidly growing in Jordanian dinars owing to the decline of the exchange rate, the growth in shareholders' equity was limited to what was allocated to it from the distributed net income. It was of the importance of capital base for the soundness of financial institutions that we will endeavour to continue strengthening our disclosed reserves by allocating a significant portion of our net income to them. This, alone, will have a positive influence on the Bank's share price in the market and will improve the Bank's ability to grow. Based on our drive to enhance the value of shareholders' equity, I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Directors recommended to the General Assembly the approval of the distribution of an additional 2,000,000 shares to the shareholders, thus raising the share capital to JD 44 million. The 22 million increase will be brought forward to the capital from the voluntary reserve. Our institution continued to ex-

pared in 1989, with the reclassification of a new franchise.

In conformity with the Jordanian Temporary Companies Law - No.1 of 1989, Arab Bank Ltd. will be known from now on as Arab Bank PLC (Public Limited Company). This has no impact on the Bank's activities or on its structure of ownership. With the meeting of your General Assembly and in conformity with section 4 of Article (160) of the above mentioned law, the term of office of the current Board members comes to an end.

In this respect, I would like to thank all the Board members for their outstanding efforts for the institution throughout the past years. I would also like to thank our customers for their trust and confidence support, and all our staff members for their hard work and loyalty to the Bank.

Abdulsamad Samaan
Chairman, Board of Directors

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE 1990s

We, at the Arab Bank, approach the 1990s with ambition, drive and willpower in order to meet the new challenges successfully. The

decade of the twentieth can
him is. Even to witness the

decade of the twentieth century is likely to witness the consolidation of the radical changes that took place in the late 1980s. The traditional ideals of a balance of power based on military might are giving way to the notions of economic strength and technical superiority.

The easing of political tensions between the Eastern and Western blocs together with the prevalence of free policies and economic thinking are preparing the ground for the resurgence of strong economic regional alliances, the most visible of these being the European Community. This last decade will also witness the rise of the newly developed economies in Latin America and Asia.

These changes are expected to precipitate new interchanges and increase competition among the major players. The most influential factors affecting the banking industry will be the changes in its regulations. The most important of these changes is the capital adequacy requirement set by the Basle Committee and the accelerated regulation of banking activity and their geographic scope.

In the increasingly globalised and competitive world of international business, the major players are giving more importance to profitability rather than to asset growth, and are consequently expected to adopt new strategies emphasising the importance of greater revenues over large assets. They will therefore

adopt specific policies that will

about specific policies that will reduce expenses and then reduce undesirable services; this prudent outlook on the market could make them look more seriously at the formation of alliances.

During the last two years, Arab Bank received a policy directed towards the preservation of shareholders' equity. At the end of 1988, the net equity to assets ratio of the Group reached 51.1% (compared to 53.67% at the end of 1988). The capital adequacy ratio for the group-invested assets for the Group reached 100% according to the Basel Convention of the Bank of International Settlements (BIS). The Group's assets are 100% funded by deposits, mainly in the banking industry, and the new phase of the Group's development is an emphasis on the Back to the customer trend.

Arab Bank, we feel, represents the best example of the new trend in the societies in which we operate. The development of a new phase and product is a necessary and prudent step in order to stay and we are confident that our shareholders will benefit from the new phase of our business.

Finally, we would like to thank our shareholders for their continued support and confidence in Arab Bank.

Abdullah Shomran
Managing Director
Dep. Chairman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' 60th Annual Report

For the year ended 31st December 1989, submitted to the General Assembly of Shareholders at the Annual Meeting held at the Bank's Head Office Building, Shmeisani, Amman, at 10 a.m., Friday, 30th March 1990.

Dear Shareholders,

Since its establishment, sixty years ago, Arab Bank has always been a vital element in the economy of the Arab world. This institution will continue to be faithful to its mission and its clients. It has also constantly proved its ability to adapt to different and changing conditions.

The year 1989 was a new chapter in the successful history of the Bank. We are glad to present to you our sixtieth annual report which briefly surveys the working conditions and the most important financial results of the Bank.

General Economic Situation

The world economy was negatively affected in 1989 by slow economic growth and a general rise in inflation and unemployment. In Jordan, the economic situation was also affected by these factors. The Jordanian economy, however, has managed to maintain its growth rate, despite the negative impact of the world economy. The Jordanian economy is characterized by a high rate of inflation, which has led to a general rise in prices. This has resulted in a decrease in the purchasing power of the Jordanian dinar. The Jordanian government has taken measures to control inflation, but the problem remains. The Jordanian economy is also facing a shortage of foreign exchange, which has led to a general rise in the value of the Jordanian dinar. This has resulted in a decrease in the purchasing power of the Jordanian dinar. The Jordanian government has taken measures to control the value of the Jordanian dinar, but the problem remains.

Jordan is concerned, the efforts to stabilize the exchange rate of the Jordanian dinar have shown satisfactory results. The official rate closed at U.S.\$ 1.481 to the dinar on 31st December 1989 compared to U.S.\$ 2.096 on 31st December 1988. Moreover, attempts to reduce the deficit in the budget and the balance of payments were intensified. The Government was also successful in rescheduling most of Jordan's external debts. We hope that all these measures will have a positive impact on the general economic situation and will strengthen and stabilize the exchange rate of the dinar. The Bank's performance in Jordan in 1989 was good; the assets and revenues of the branches operating there grew at a higher rate than the devaluation of the dinar. In addition, the Bank slightly reinforced its share in the Jordanian market to 32% of total available deposits.

FINANCIAL REVIEW Arab Bank Group Overview

The reporting currencies of the two main entities of the Group, Arab Bank and Arab Bank (Switzerland) Ltd., are the Jordanian dinar and the Swiss franc. The exchange rate of both declined against the U.S. dollar, the reporting currency of the Group, at the end of 1989. The Jordanian dinar decline of 29.3% against the U.S. dollar, which was reflected in the U.S. dollar balance sheet of the Group, as well as almost all assets and liabilities. Despite this, the Group's financial position remained strong. The Group's assets and liabilities were both increased by 11.8% and 11.9% respectively, compared to the end of 1988. The Group's revenue was also increased by 11.8% compared to the end of 1988. The Group's net income was also increased by 11.8% compared to the end of 1988. The Group's capital and reserves were also increased by 11.8% compared to the end of 1988. The Group's financial position remained strong.

U.S.\$ 797.9 million in 1988. Net interest revenue increased by U.S.\$ 27.5 million (18.7%) to reach U.S.\$ 174.8 million compared with U.S.\$ 147.3 million in 1988.

The Bank's continuous efforts to enhance its holdings of quality loans coupled with successful management of its interest rate risk contributed to the rise in net interest revenue.

Non-Interest Revenue

Commission, income from foreign exchange trading and other revenue increased by U.S.\$ 7.6 million in all to reach U.S.\$ 126.5 million in 1989 compared to U.S.\$ 118.9 million in 1988. A comparative analysis of non-interest revenue components is presented below:

Revenue	1989	1988	Variance
Commission	47.2	51.4	(4.2)
Foreign exchange	32.8	28.7	4.1
Other revenue	46.5	38.8	7.7
Total non-interest	126.5	118.9	7.6

Other revenue contributed U.S.\$ 7.7 million to the increase in non-interest revenue, mostly representing the improvement in the return from Arab Bank's associated companies. Commission declined by U.S.\$ 4.2 million and 8.1% during 1989, reflecting the fall in the exchange value of the Jordanian dinar and the moderate trade activities by our customers.

The total balance of deposits and other accounts declined to U.S.\$ 11,984.9 million from U.S.\$ 12,434.8 million in 1988. The U.S.\$ 449.9 million, a 3.6% decline, is a direct result of currency translation. Deposits in local currencies observed positive growth in almost all entities. The main components of deposits and other accounts continue to be customers' deposits which are characterized by their stability.

Total assets slightly receded to U.S.\$ 12,978.7 million from U.S.\$ 13,402.6 million, representing a 3.2% decrease. Although the end of year figure is below target in U.S.\$ terms, the Group's consolidated total assets were favoured by the Bank's management. Efforts during 1989 were in general directed towards improving profitability and assets quality.

Loan Portfolio

Loans and advances net of doubtful debt allowance rose to U.S.\$ 3,832.8 million from U.S.\$ 3,739.1 million, i.e., an increase of U.S.\$ 93.7 million (2.5%). Positive development of the Group's holding in loans and advances was a major strategic objective of the management in 1989. Early in 1990, our customers in Jordan were introduced to dial-up banking.

Results of Operations

Total revenue of the Bank grew to J.D. 154.3 million from J.D. 97.7 million in 1988. The J.D. 56.6 million and 57.9% increase in revenue derived from growth in all revenue components, most significantly in net interest revenue.

The following table depicts the changes in the 1989 revenues over those of 1988.

Revenue	1989	1988	Variance
Net interest revenue	103.7	61.1	42.6
Commission	22.8	18.2	4.6
Foreign exchange	19.5	12.0	7.5
Other revenue	8.3	6.4	1.9
Total revenue	154.3	97.7	56.6

Net interest revenue composed 67.9% of total revenue in 1989 compared to 62.5% in 1988, reducing the weight of non-interest revenue to 32.8% from 37.5%.

Total operating expenses advanced to J.D. 85.7 million from J.D. 56.3 million. Most of the J.D. 29.4 million increase (52.3%) over 1988 reflects the decline in the value of the Jordanian dinar. Staff costs reached J.D. 40.3 million, 47.0% of operating expenses. The remaining 53.0% of operating expenses comes from J.D. 41.8 million from general expenses, which included the bad debts written off, and an addition to the doubtful debt allowance.

Equity

Shareholders' Equity

goods and to earn profits according to Murabaha principles. Moreover, our main branch in New York has recently developed Islamic investment products which are directed towards financial institutions as well as customers willing to invest their money according to Islamic laws and regulations. Investment contracts to buy and sell metal and commodities for periods from one month up to two years are executed according to customers' instructions. These contracts were designed under the advice and supervision of the Islamic financial institutions concerned. Revenues resulting from such investments are not subjects to U.S. tax law for non-residents.

Automation

Arab Bank automation division intensified its efforts to utilize modern concepts in automation so as to serve the customers even more efficiently. Its efforts were also directed towards more productive allocation of resources as well as more timely and relevant managerial decisions. In 1989, Arab Bank Network of automated teller machine system was significantly expanded. Other efforts were also directed towards the modernization of Head Office as well as most branches' computer equipment. The development and installation of several software packages, including letters of credit, guarantees, and money transfer, were completed in 1989.

Both the Paris branch and O.B.U., Manama, completed the installation of the SWIFT communication system. Early in 1990, our customers in Jordan were introduced to dial-up banking.

4-Customers' Services and New Products

In 1990, the Bank will continue its directed efforts to provide its customers with a new range of products and financial services to meet their needs more effectively. This will be achieved through steady efforts to develop staff qualifications, automation and general expansion. More specifically, the Bank will:

3- Profitability

Profitability ratios of Arab Bank during the period 1985 to 1989 were in average as follows:

• Return on equity: 16.2%

• Return on assets: 0.78%

We will endeavour in the coming year to maintain profitability at the same level as in the previous years.

2- Growth

During the period from January 1st, 1988 to December 31, 1989, Arab Bank fund in Jordanian dinars increased by 95%. The coefficient of real growth for the last 36 years was approximately 8.5%. In 1990, Arab Bank will work to maintain its historical growth in real terms after eliminating inflationary factors.

1- Asset Management

We will continue modifying and restructuring our application of funds so as to enhance our holdings of high yield assets within a framework of preset risk limits.

Accommodation of our customers' needs as well as the needs of the societies in which we operate will be a major constraint in achieving this goal. Maintaining Arab Bank's traditional high liquidity level will be another major factor affecting our asset management decisions.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDATIONS

Appropriation of Net Profit

The Board of Directors recommends the appropriation of J.D. 52,255,000 distributable income as follows:

- J.D. 44,500,000 to reserves.

- J.D. 7,700,000 cash dividend to the shareholders at J.D. 3.5 per share (35% of the par value of J.D. 10).

- J.D. 55,000 as remuneration to the Members of the Board of Directors.

Capital Increase

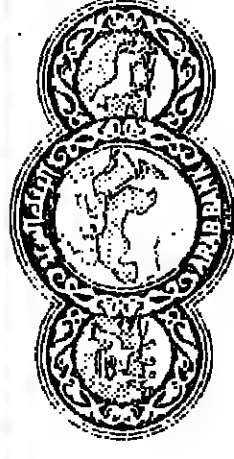
The Board of Directors also recommends the increase of Arab Bank capital to J.D. 44 million. The increase of J.D. 22 million will be transferred from the voluntary reserve. A one to one stock split is proposed by issuing an additional 2,200,000 shares to the shareholders of the General Assembly of 1991.

Finally, we take this opportunity to express our thanks and gratitude to our shareholders for their continuous support and assistance during the past year.

b- Automation

The Bank plans to expand the applications of systems already developed for electronic signature verification, letters of credit, guarantees, and automated mail handling facilities. Plans to develop new systems for travellers cheques, acceptances and discounted bills. The computer equipment in Lebanon will be up-graded. As far as modern decision-making systems are concerned, artificial intelligence as well as management information systems and decision support systems will be utilized.

ARAB BANK GROUP



Balance Sheet as of 31st December 1989 and 1988

Assets	31 /12 / 1989 US\$ ('000)	31 /12 / 1988 US\$ ('000)
Cash in hand and at banks	7,787,204	8,116,354
Securities and investments	735,285	916,180
Loans and advances	3,832,765	3,739,069
Customers' liability on acceptances	81,402	95,448
Investments in associated companies	242,682	213,193
Premises and equipment	67,585	63,749
Accrued interest receivable	115,391	107,695
Other assets	116,378	150,863
Total Assets	12,978,692	13,402,551
Customers' liability on guarantees and letters of credit	2,039,972	1,870,393
Total	15,018,664	15,272,944

Liabilities	31 /12 / 1989 US\$ ('000)	31 /12 / 1988 US\$ ('000)
Deposits and other accounts	11,984,890	12,434,820
Acceptances	81,402	95,448
Accrued interest payable	105,856	90,960
Proposed dividends	14,053	20,795
Total liabilities	12,186,201	12,642,023
Shareholders' Equity		
Capital	86,939	90,123
Statutory reserve	77,255	76,097
General reserve	478,205	403,115
Voluntary reserve	141,379	126,569
Reserves with associated companies	165,572	155,989
Retained earnings	3,429	558
Total	952,779	852,451
Translation adjustments	(160,288)	(91,923)
Total Shareholders' Equity	792,491	760,528
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	12,978,692	13,402,551
Guarantees and letters of credit	2,039,972	1,870,393
Total	15,018,664	15,272,944

Profit and Loss Statement for the years 1989 and 1988

	31/12/1989 US\$ ('000)	31/12/1988 US\$ ('000)
Revenue	994,908	792,321
Expenses	(792,321)	(51,365)
Net income	202,587	240,956
Other revenue	32,750	20,675
Total non-interest revenue	46,535	38,829
Total Revenue	126,495	118,869
Expenses	301,266	266,141
Salaries and staff benefits	73,267	71,322
Depreciation of premises and equipment	6,633	6,124
Other expenses and provisions	75,478	66,525
Total Expenses	155,378	143,971
Net income before income taxes	145,888	122,170
Income taxes	(4,778)	35,339
Net Income	98,110	86,831
Appropriations		
Net income	98,110	86,831
Retained earnings brought forward	558	59,455
From undisclosed taxed reserves		
Arab Bank (Switzerland) Ltd	19,455	---
Total	118,123	146,286
Allocations		
To statutory reserve	1,158	428
To general reserve	75,090	106,321
To voluntary reserve	14,810	12,210
To reserves with associated companies	9,583	5,974
Proposed cash dividends	13,972	20,761
Directors' remuneration	81	34
Retained earnings carried forward	3,429	558

Statement of Sources and Applications of Funds for the years ended 31st December 1989 and 1988

	31/12/1989 US\$ ('000)	31/12/1988 US\$ ('000)
Funds provided	98,110	86,831
Net income	98,110	86,831
Reserves	19,455	---
Deposits and other accounts	---	138,610
Capital	---	3,184
Decrease in:		
Cash and due from banks	329,150	172,852
Investments and securities	180,895	178,711
Premises and equipment	---	4,692
Other assets	26,789	20,752
Total funds provided	661,032	631,756
Funds applied		
Dividends and remunerations paid	20,795	26,643
Translation adjustments	68,365	91,923
Decrease in:		
Deposits and other accounts	435,034	---
Capital	3,184	---
Increase in:		
Loans and advances	93,696	490,015
Investments in associated companies	29,489	23,175
Premises and equipment	10,469	---
Total funds applied	661,032	631,756

We have examined the consolidated balance sheet of ARAB BANK GROUP, as at December 31, 1989 and 1988 and the related consolidated statement of income and consolidated statement of sources and applications of funds for the years ended 1989 and 1988. Our examination was made in accordance with international auditing guidelines and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. Included in the financial statements are amounts relating to a client company and certain subsidiaries other auditors whose reports we have reviewed.

Auditors' Report
To the Shareholders of Arab Bank

In our opinion, based upon our examination and the report of other auditors, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial position of Arab Bank Group as of December 31, 1989 and 1988 and the results of its operations and its sources and applications of funds for the years then ended, in accordance with international accounting standards.

Saba & Co.
Amman, Jordan, January 26, 1990

ARAB BANK

WITH MORE THAN 100 BRANCHES AND AFFILIATES

ARAB BANK / GENERAL MANAGEMENT, SIMILISAH, AMMAN / JORDAN

he in effect sold his former office to a Japanese conglomerate for \$2 million, making a highly publicized trip to Japan in which the heavy lifting consisted solely of making one speech and a few occasional remarks. He gave a one-hour talk to a fast-food chain's corporate meeting for \$60,000 not long ago and his agents have let the world know there is more where that came from. As he told a recent interviewer, he is enjoying his return to the "mashed potato circuit," that round of public lectures which helped launch his political career three decades ago. In all fairness, he has also given televised appeals for support of at least two non-controversial causes,

but that has been the extent of his involvement.

Richard Nixon, who was forced out of office by the Watergate scandal 16 years ago, has re-emerged in a big way. By dint of his impressive will, a prodigious output of books and articles and his undiminished standing in some quarters as a foreign policy expert, Nixon has come back onstage with a vengeance, so proclaimed by magazine covers and talk show appearances. He has been sent by Presidents Bush and Reagan on delicate foreign missions, the last as pathfinder to China for the White House after the brutal crackdown in that country last summer. His phone is almost as busy as that of his former secretary of state, Henry Kissinger, and those he advises range from presidents to CEOs. Unlike

the other three, Nixon does not take speaking fees and has given up Secret Service protection, but he maintains an impressively active personal staff.

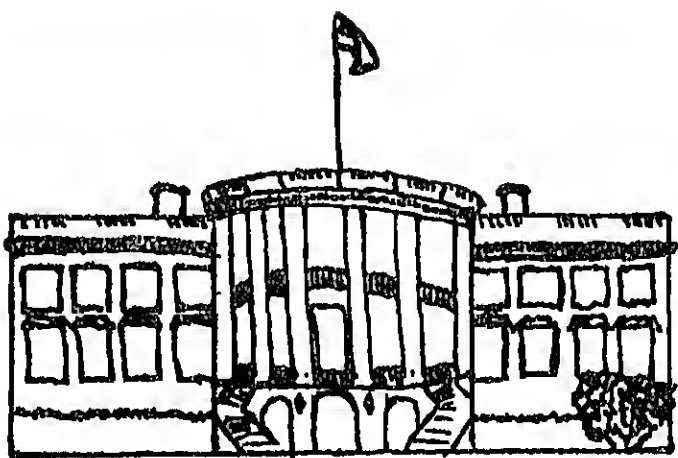
The man who succeeded him, Gerald Ford, has followed a different road. While he has used his presidential library at Grand Rapids, Michigan, for conferences on major world issues and has served on joint commissions studying problems of the presidency and other matters with former President Jimmy Carter, he has also happily enjoyed the good life since leaving office in 1977. Few celebrity golf tournaments are played without his presence and he has joined six corporate boards, becoming a wealthy man for the first time after a life spent in public service. Former President Ford, like Reagan and Nixon (in recent years), has been regularly consulted by his Republican successors and occasionally used as a political surrogate.

For Jimmy Carter, the penalty for defeat was eight years in a political deep freeze. He was finally publicly reunited with his own party at the 1988 Democratic Convention in Atlanta, where he was warmly applauded before and after a convention speech. He was never consulted by President Reagan, the man who bent him, primarily because of his political value to the GOP as the symbol and alleged architect of the "bad old days." As such, Carter is today's version of the Democrats' longtime demonization of former President Herbert Hoover as the proximate cause of the Great Depression.

Like Hoover, also an engineer, he has refused to play dead. Like Hoover, he has plowed ahead with work that matters to him, and what matters to him are projects which benefit the less fortunate at home and abroad. Mostly without publicity, he has given time and personal involvement to "Habitat for Humanity," an organization that builds housing for the poor. He has been a high-profile observer in elections in Panama and Nicaragua. He has mediated conflicts in the Middle East and focused attention on Third World problems. His consuming interest in human rights is mirrored in conferences and projects sponsored by the Carter Library, as well as a major human rights award given annually in his name.

What unites all four ex-presidents is their shared exclusion from a formal governmental role and their unanimous agreement that there should be none. Their consensus is not necessarily valid, given the perspectives they could offer from a more formal platform. White House experience is a rare commodity. It would be useful to the Republic if it were regularly available in a public forum.

Interestingly enough, however, a decision in 1963 by the US Senate to allow former presidents the privilege of speaking from the Senate floor has been ignored. For the foreseeable future, ex-presidents will continue to be free-lancers at large.



Ford on the links.

The long and the short terms

Richard M. Nixon 1969-74
Gerald R. Ford 1974-77
James E. Carter 1977-81
Ronald W. Reagan 1981-89

Statement of Sources and Applications of Funds for the years ended 31 December 1989 and 1988	31/12/1989 JD ('000)	31/12/1988 JD ('000)
Revenue		
Interest revenue	607,708	349,074
Less: Interest expense	503,958	287,976
Net interest revenue	103,750	61,098
Non-interest revenue	22,790	18,228
Commissions	19,487	11,968
Foreign exchange trading	8,320	6,431
Other revenue	50,597	36,627
Total non-interest revenue	154,347	97,225
Total Revenue		
	1,256,245	824,333
Expenses		
Salaries and staff benefits	40,315	28,148
Depreciation of premises and equipment	3,620	2,442
Other expenses and provisions	41,838	25,737
Total Expenses	85,773	56,327
Net income before income taxes	68,574	41,398
Income taxes	16,319	6,282
Net Income	52,255	35,116
Appropriations		
Net income	52,255	35,116
Retained earnings brought forward	—	19,600
Total	52,255	54,716
Allocations		
To general reserve	34,500	40,300
To voluntary reserve	10,000	7,000
Proposed cash dividends	7,700	7,700
Directors' remuneration	55	16
Retained earnings carried forward	—	—

Profit and Loss Statement for the years 1989 and 1988

Khalid A.H. Shoman
Deputy Chairman

Abdulmajed A.H. Shoman
Chairman

Statement of Sources and Applications of Funds for the years ended 31 December 1989 and 1988	31/12/1989 JD ('000)	31/12/1988 JD ('000)
Funds provided		
Net income	52,255	35,116
Depreciation of premises and equipment	3,620	2,442
Total funds provided from operations	55,875	37,558
Increase in deposits and other accounts	1,678,765	1,296,648
Total funds provided	1,734,640	1,334,206
Funds applied		
Dividends and remunerations paid	7,716	7,714
Increase in:		
Cash in hand and at banks	677,059	641,691
Securities	29,993	58,241
Loans and advances	757,651	604,023
Investments	14,487	9,308
Premises and equipment	13,705	5,514
Other assets	34,029	7,715
Total funds applied	1,734,640	1,334,206

Statement of Sources and Applications of Funds for the years ended 31 December 1989 and 1988

Auditors' Report

To the Shareholders of Arab Bank

We have examined the balance sheet of Arab Bank (a Jordanian public shareholding limited company) as at December 31, 1989 and 1988 and the related statement of income and statement of source and applications of funds for the years ended December 31, 1989 and 1988.

We conducted our audit in accordance with international auditing guidelines and included such tests of the accounting records and of the system of internal controls and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We have obtained the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.

The Bank maintains proper accounting records and the accompanying financial statements are in agreement therewith. Furthermore, the financial data presented by the Board of Directors are in agreement with these records.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial position of Arab Bank as at December 31, 1989 and 1988 and the results of its operations and its sources and applications of funds for the years then ended, in accordance with international accounting standards, and we recommend that the General Assembly approve these financial statements.

Sale & Co.
Amman, Jordan
January 28, 1990.

البنك العربي

The living isn't easy for East bloc ex-leaders

Ousted socialist politicians fall victim to own system

BY DANIEL PASSENT
in Warsaw, Poland

ROMANIAN COLONEL Gica Popa, who chaired the summary court that sentenced Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu to death after a hasty trial, committed suicide March 2. Both the dictator and his judge fell victim of the system that crested them.

Suddenly, Eastern Europe has a host of politicians thrust pre-emptively out of jobs—Erich Honecker of East Germany, Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria, among many others. Not for them the pension-upholstered retirement of former presidents of the United States or the bookish leisure of forgotten British prime ministers.

While the job of politician never was a safe occupation in the socialist system, the current crop is much luckier than their dismissed predecessors. Although some may face jail sentences, they will not join the long line of officials, starting from Josef Stalin's earliest victims, who became the prey of politics in a totalitarian system.

Daniel Passent is deputy editor of the Polish magazine *Polityka*.

ian system. Although the bitter fruit of all dictatorial states—from South Korea to Idi Amin's Uganda—suicide, murder, secret trial, execution sanctioned by law, exile and defection have been the customary terminal points in the life of Eastern Europe's politicians.

Stalin seemed to start the tradition of ruthlessly eliminating those who fell from grace. When Lenin died in 1924, Stalin, the Communist Party's general secretary, was one of a triumvirate of rulers with Lev Kamenev and Grigori Zonoviev. Others vying for power were Aleksey Ivanovich Rykov, who actually became Soviet premier; Sergei Kirov, the eminent party activist from Leningrad; and the most celebrated of all, Leon Trotsky, the creator of the Red Army.

Stalin is widely believed to have instigated the assassination of Kirov in 1934, triggering the gigantic show trials that led to the executions in 1936 of Kamenev and Zonoviev and in 1938 of Rykov. After the Spanish-born Ramon Mercader assassinated Trotsky in Mexico in 1940, the killer was acclaimed a Hero of the Soviet Union—and Stalin ruled unopposed.

The tradition continued after Stalin's

death in March 1953, when his right-hand man responsible for police and terror was the notorious Lavrenti Beria, chief pretender to the throne. He became first deputy premier behind Premier Georgi Maksimilianovich Malenkov. A group of moderate politicians, including Nikita Khrushchev, conspired with high officials and generals who, acting on a cue, arrested Beria at a Politburo session and had him shot, à la Mafia style, in December 1953.

When Khrushchev ousted Malenkov in 1955, the ex-premier had the distinction of becoming one of the few former powerful in the Soviet Union to survive his departure, as did Khrushchev himself when he was toppled in 1964. The new tradition continues, with Soviet leaders now dying in bed instead of before firing squads.

Elsewhere, the earlier tradition was equally violent. Jan Masaryk, foreign minister of Czechoslovakia and son of the country's first president responsible for its independence after World War I, became an early Cold War victim when he fell from a window on March 10, 1948 after a Communist coup and was declared a suicide.

Politicians with more luck and initiative or who had powerful friends made their way abroad as the Soviets swept into Eastern Europe after World War II. Hungarian Prime Minister Ferenz Nagy, seeing the Communists were tightening their stranglehold on his country, decided in 1947 to stay in Switzerland on vacation (one of the last from the East to enjoy that resort land; later Eastern Communist leaders made pilgrimages instead to the sunny Crimea for the opportunity to be received by Stalin or Brezhnev).

About the same time, Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, leader of Poland's Peasant Party and the country's most popular politician, was spirited away in the trunk of a limousine provided by the US embassy and fled abroad.

By the time Stalinism was in full bloom in the early 1950s, the Communists had only themselves to rub out. The Cold War, spy mania, Stalin's suspiciousness and his dogma about the intensifying class struggle, anti-Semitism and nationalism all resulted in bloodletting. Viko Chervenkow, then the leader of Bulgarian Communists, remarked that the most dangerous enemies were those with Communist Party cards in their pockets.

This was already evident in the late 1940s. The leader of Polish Communists, Wladyslaw Gomułka, was arrested and imprisoned in 1949 on charges of right-wing deviation. He later returned to power in 1956. Although he was purged a second time in 1970, he has been permitted to live a quiet life in retirement.

Late in the 1940s in Albania, Kocvi Dzedza and others were dragged to court for "treacherous plots to the advantage of Titoist Yugoslavia" and vanished from the political scene. In Hungary, Laszlo Rajk (former internal and then foreign minister), Andras Szalay and Tibor Szoery were imprisoned.

ed. All were sentenced to death after having "confessed their guilt" under torture.

In Bulgaria, Traicho Kostov, number-two man in the Party, was executed for spying for the British intelligence service and for working for Tito. Six other defendants received life sentences.

In Czechoslovakia, more than 600 former politicians of various parties were arrested in the autumn of 1949 and charged with conspiring against the republic. Four of them—including a woman, Dr. Milada Horakova, a former National Socialist deputy allegedly at the head of the "conspiracy"—were sentenced to death. Horakova was rehabilitated posthumously.

Eleven prominent Communists were sentenced to death in Prague in 1952. Among them were Vice Premier Rudolf Slansky, Communist Party Secretary Otto Sling and Foreign Minister Vlado Clementis. All three were hanged December 3, 1952, for "ties with Zionist centers."

In farewell letters that reached their widows and orphans 15 years later, the men insisted they were innocent and had confessed their guilt out of loyalty to the Party. They were rehabilitated posthumously during the period of de-Stalinization following 1956. Among those who survived prison and were not broken by torture was none other than Gustav Husak, the man who assumed party and state leadership in the wake of the 1968 invasion by the Soviet Union and its socialist allies. He replaced Alexander Dubcek, who, in turn, was relegated to a minor bookkeeping job in a regional forestry department.

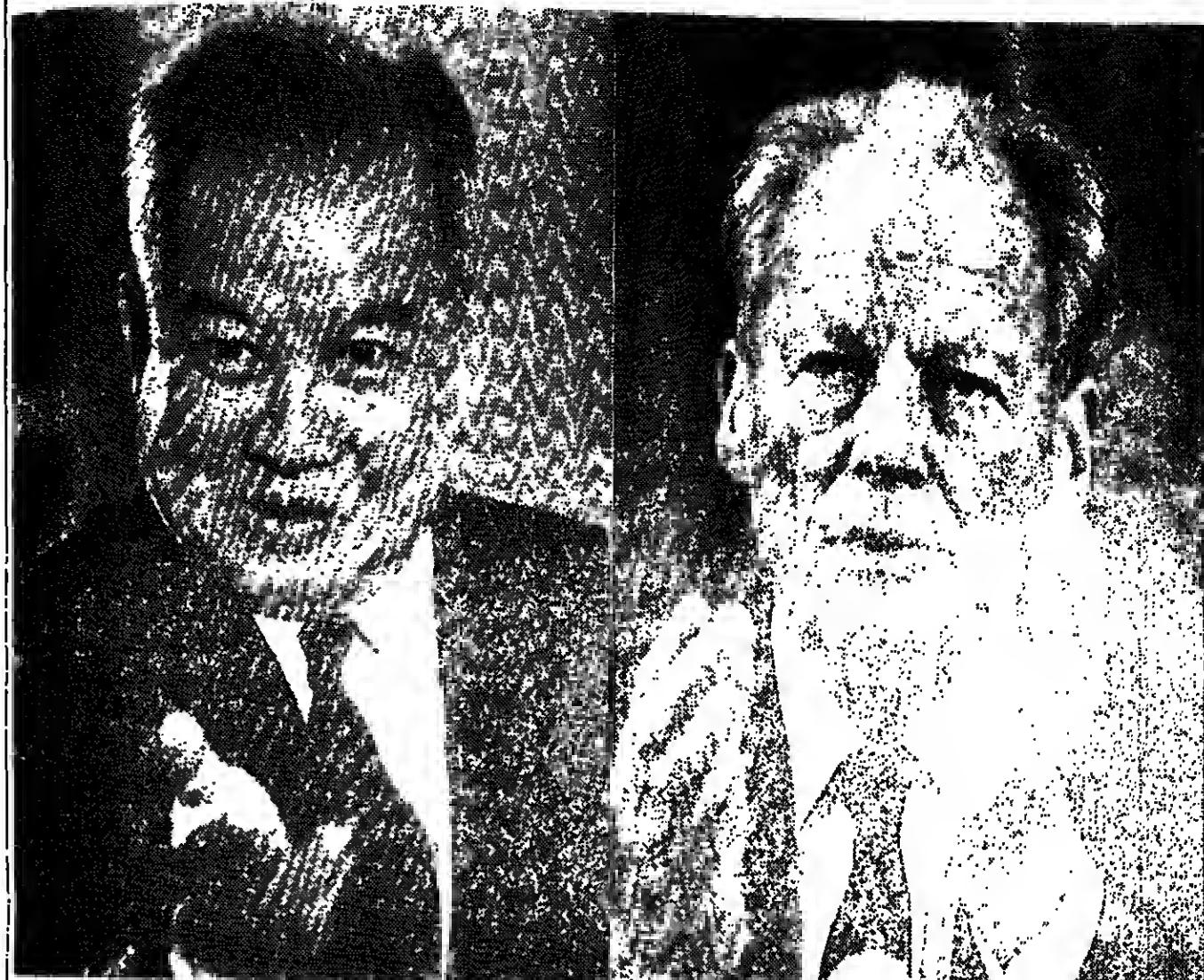
Dubcek now leads the parliament in the liberal Czech regime, a living symbol of a change in style, in which not all Communist leaders trade power for death.

When the Stalinist dictatorship crumbled in Hungary in 1956, the notoriously cruel Hungarian Stalin, Matyas Rakosi, saved his skin by escaping to the Soviet Union. (It was also in the USSR that Polish journalists recently tracked down Col. Anatol Skulbaskowski, one of the most ruthless prosecutors in trials of army officers in Poland.)

When Rakosi bolted, the premiership was taken by Imre Nagy, a democratically minded Communist who had been imprisoned previously by his comrades. After the Russians suppressed the 1956 revolution, Nagy, along with his closest associates, was shot secretly in Romania. Nagy's symbolic funeral in Budapest was attended last year—33 years later—by thousands.

Janos Kadar, entrusted with returning Hungary to socialist normalcy, made the decision to shoot Nagy. He, too, did time in Stalinist prisons—a permanent reminder of which is evidenced by his missing fingernails. They were ripped off during torture.

These are the fates of politicians who have created a system in which they are maintained in office not until the end of a constitutionally defined term but until they found themselves either killed or dispatched to the nether world.



Political warhorses still in the running

Former W. European and Asian leaders haven't been put out to pasture yet

BY JACQUELINE GRAPIN
in Geneva, Switzerland

QUESTION: WHO is today's hero of German politics?

Answer: The eldest member of the West German parliamentary assembly, who supposedly ended his political career when he stepped down as chancellor in the spring of 1987, 54 years after he fled his homeland to fight the Nazis. He is the former leader who modernized the West German Socialist Party after 1963, and whose chief contribution in foreign affairs has been his "Ostpolitik." His name is Willy Brandt.

At the end of February, Brandt, 76, was named honorary chairman of the East German party, and would probably also be considered de facto chairman of a unified German state.

Similarly, Cambodia's Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who has spent his life trying to keep his country and himself afloat with few resources besides his wit and unpredictability, is back. No more the god-king, he is using the great powers and Indochinese factions as they have used him. That is why he has entered into an awkward coalition with both the rightists who overthrew him in 1970 and the Khmer Rouge who turned the country into a charnel house when they overthrew the rightists in 1975. He is back in Cambodia, albeit in a malaria-infested

Jacqueline Grapin is *The World Paper* associate editor for Western Europe.

jungle camp along the Thai border, and he insists that he will stay there unless he gets "a toothache requiring treatment in Bangkok."

These old political horses seem impossible to kill. They certainly are not reluctant to speak out. Former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt remarked on the progress toward integration of the European Community: "It won't be a breakthrough until these idiots find the courage to take the

When his interviewer expressed surprise, he added, "The time has come when these things have got to be said—and I say them now."

It would be wrong to believe that someone like Heath will limit himself to his current activity, conducting the Orchestra of the Youth of the European Community, until he dies. Mrs. Thatcher may discover the power of retirement herself when she becomes a former, and, presumably, formidable, political figure.

Former French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and Schmidt, who consider themselves the fathers of the now nearly 10-year-old European Monetary System, are still teaming up, this time to push the creation of a joint Central European bank as well as to stay visible on the international scene and secure their chances for future political opportunities. Beginning with a friendship they developed while in office, they have now started a number of high-level private groups of former leaders to give advice to new ones and get attention from the press, most of the time with limited success.

Schmidt is considered by many to be too bitter and too negative in his approach to new problems to be able to really make his way back into the corridors of power. He is also hurt by the memory of his compromising relationship with ex-East German leader Erich Honecker and President Wojciech Jaruzelski of Poland. The new leaders of opposition movements in those countries are not likely to forget it.

Reaching for more: Sihanouk of Cambodia and W. Germany's Brandt.

The former leaders of the Eastern "popular democracies" have little chance of finding their way back to power soon. In Western-type democracies it is common to do so. The French have become experts. After leading the government for only a few months at the end of World War II, Gen. Charles de Gaulle waited for 22 years before returning to power in May 1958 and serving 11 years as president.

François Mitterrand held several ministerial posts in the post-war period before de Gaulle's return forced him back to local and regional politics. He returned to win the presidential election in May 1981. The French have a special word for the dry periods when their politicians rest from governmental obligations while the opposition is in power. They call it "crossing the desert."

A number of well-known international figures are now undergoing this experience. D'Estaing, labeled as "finished" the day after his defeat by Mitterrand after seven comfortable years at the Elysée Palace, is heading for a comeback by being a highly visible member of the European Parliament in Brussels and Strasbourg. His popularity has risen in the last two years, mainly because of the inability of the other leaders of the conservative opposition to President Mitterrand to work together. He and the other main opposition figure, former Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, both still believe in their future, which is perhaps the best way to make it more uncertain.

It is encouraging to see Willy Brandt playing the role of wise man watching over both Germanys when 10 years ago he was old, tired, unmotivated and drinking too much. He is now back on his 76-year-old feet, smiling at his charming 36-year-old wife and their young daughter.

The beauty of modern life is that it allows younger leaders to reach the highest positions of responsibility, while at the same time making a lifetime last longer. The problem for the coming new generations is to compete efficiently against the old political warhorses.

Among future former political figures, one of the most interesting is Jacques Delors, the president of the Commission of the European Communities. His mandate runs through the end of 1992. But rumors are already spreading about his possible candidacy in the 1995 French presidential election, possibly running against his good Socialist Party friend, Prime Minister Michel Rocard.

Speculation also has Mitterrand recalling Delors from Brussels to replace Rocard as prime minister, a Machiavellian move to give Delors more national visibility, to bring the EC president back under a more controlled atmosphere in Paris and to squeeze him locally among other potential candidates.

No leader likes the idea of being "former," but for Delors becoming a former president of the European Commission may brighten his future. ♦

Happier days:
Erich Honecker (far right)
with Mikhail Gorbachev;
Todor Zhivkov (below) with
Chinese leader Deng
Xiaoping. Both are now
charged with "gross
misrule" and face
possible jail sentences.



The authors speak...

This is the latest in an occasional series in which authors discuss their books. Amalia and Aharon Barnea, both in their 40s, are Israelis reporting from their homeland. Amalia Barnea is a journalist for Yediot Aharonot, the country's largest newspaper, and Aharon Barnea is director of the Middle East desk and Arab affairs correspondent for Israel Radio News. They describe their thinking in writing *Mine Enemy*:

DEEP IN THE heart of any national conflict is the myth—the myth that each side to the conflict has developed about the other. Israelis and Arabs have generated many such myths during long years of conflict crowned with hatred and animosity.

A stereotype is a product of myth. It is usually defined as a concept or an oversimplified description of a certain category of people, institutions or events that is generally accepted as such by a large group of people. It always

involves prejudices. It may be that developing myths and nurturing stereotypes made it easier for groups and individuals on both sides to continue their conflict and to cope with the reality of daily life. Years of war and aggressive action have undoubtedly enhanced the process of demonization of the other side with one result: dehumanization of the "enemy."

Therefore it was only natural, perhaps, for two Israelis, born in Israel to Holocaust survivors, who daily have to guard their own children at school from a possible terrorist attack and who look at deserted objects in the street as potential time bombs, to regard a prominent member of the PLO as a terrorist, as nothing more than a cold-blooded killer. Yet even in our first meeting with this man, the thick high walls of prejudice and stereotypes started to shake. The enemies—the highest-ranking PLO officer ever to be captured by Israel and an Israeli journalist who had come to interview him in his prison cell—began to realize that their stereotypical views of

each other were totally wrong.

But if all that was possible for an Israeli journalist who had been dealing with Arab affairs for many years, it was much more difficult for the journalist's wife. Their starting points, as they began their encounter, were entirely different. She had grown up in a religious home in Jerusalem and her parents had been members of Menachem Begin's nationalist Beytar organization. Although she was ready to accept the fact that her husband saw things differently, she found it hard to agree with him. Unlike him, Arabs were not her daily bread. It was she, then, who underwent the deeper transformation when somewhere along the way the enemy became a person with a name and a history of his own—no longer just another anonymous terrorist, so much easier to hate.

It was that dispelling of anonymity that

A new image for the enemy

Book shows how friendship brought humanity into focus

MINE ENEMY, by Amalia & Aharon Barnea, Grove Press, New York, USA. 225pp. US\$17.95

BY MALIK MUFTI
in Boston, USA

THE AIM OF this book, co-authors Amalia and Aharon Barnea tell us in their preface, is to help sustain a "narrow fringe of sanity at the edge of hatred and violence," where Israelis and Palestinians can encounter each other as fully rounded human beings rather than as faceless enemies. It is therefore very heartening to read that *Mine Enemy*—in both its Hebrew and its Arabic editions—became a best seller in Israel.

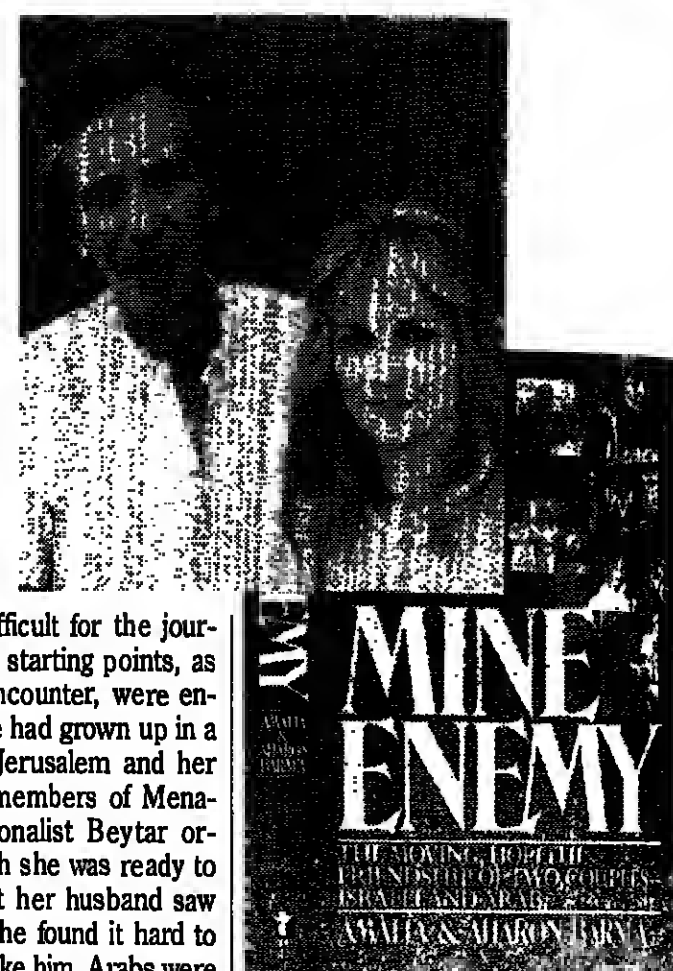
Shattering negative stereotypes necessarily entails highly personalized individual interaction, and indeed the authors do not attempt to present either a comprehensive history or a scholarly analysis of the political and territorial disputes between Israelis and Palestinians. Instead, this book tells the story of a friendship which developed between Israeli journalist Aharon Barnea and Salah Ta'mari, a Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) commander captured during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The two men first meet in June 1982 when Barnea is brought in to interview the newly captured Palestinian. It appears to have been love at first sight.

One is struck by how hard each man tries to impress the other. Barnea displays his knowledge of Arabic by correctly deducing Ta'mari's home town from his accent. Ta'mari responds by showing off his familiarity with Jewish and Zionist history ("You should've seen my library in Sidon," he tells his visitor, "I had every book on Jewish history that came out in English") and is not above dropping a few phrases in Hebrew he picked up from the guards. This exercise in competitive braggadocio culminates in, of all things, a discussion of imagery in T.S. Eliot's poetry. It is as if a lifetime of conflict has left in each man a powerful need to be respected, even admired, by his enemy. A shaky psychological foundation upon which to build a relationship, perhaps, but it does the job. By the time the interview is over, Barnea and Ta'mari have already become friends.

The story of how this friendship deepens and expands in the course of the following months is by far the most interesting part of a generally unimpressive book.

And the last third of the book, covering the period from Ta'mari's transfer to a prisoner-of-war camp in October 1982 until his release just over a year later, is a very conventional account of prison camp



broke down the stereotypes: when we watched the "terrorist" in our own living room, playing with our own baby daughter on his knees, both of them having a grand time amusing each other... when we met for the first time with the "terrorist's" wife, who emerged from an El-Al airplane at Israel's inter-

... Seeking to examine old myths

national airport (named after David Ben-Gurion) on a visit to her husband in an Israeli prison while the war in Lebanon raged on. Whether we liked it or not, the stereotype was being shattered in front of our eyes. Even high-ranking Israeli officials had to admit their long-held beliefs were shaken. Their first response to the humane gesture of the "terrorist's" wife in bringing important news of Israeli soldiers missing in action in Lebanon was: "She lies like all Arabs do." But this stereotype eventually broke down, as the anonymous enemy proved to be an honest, reliable and dignified human being—a partner, in many ways, to common worries and mutual endeavors.

The story of the friendship that developed between us and Lt. Col. Salah Ta'mari and his wife

became a best seller in Israel. It seems that its message gave some hope to so many Israeli readers who discovered, maybe for the first time, that in place of a faceless enemy on the other side, they

might find human beings who could become partners in a sincere dialogue. After all, they have been looking for such partners for many years, but the barriers of myth and stereotype have prevented them from seeing that they do exist.

All we can do is wish that our experience may be a humble contribution to those ready to establish some common ground in this vicious conflict, those ready to re-examine and see through old myths and prejudices.

In the words of Ta'mari himself:

"Meanwhile, we're here by ourselves. But I'm sure that others will eventually join us, dozens and then hundreds. When the children of those you killed and the children of those we killed all grow up and run the world, everything will be different." ♦

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Ante up for Earth Day

To help observe April 22 as Earth Day, a worldwide celebration of efforts to protect the planet, please fill in the following questionnaire and mail it by May 1 to the address below. The WorldPaper will publish the results in a forthcoming issue.

1. Who do you hold most responsible for the depletion of scarce natural resources?
☐ Governments ☐ Industries ☐ Ourselves

2. Are you more likely to take an active stance on a pollution issue if it is local, national or international?
☐ Local ☐ National ☐ International ☐ Not likely to take a stand

3. Do you think that less-developed nations have a right to exploit their environment in the same ways the industrialized nations have in the past in order to catch up with the rest of the world?
☐ Yes ☐ No

4. If there were well-maintained bicycle paths throughout your city, and you lived within a reasonable distance, would you ride a bicycle instead of driving a car to work?
☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Would you wear a coat given to you as a gift if it were made from the fur of a trapped wild animal?
☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Do we need more laws or better enforcement of existing laws to prevent further pollution of the environment?
☐ More laws ☐ Better enforcement

7. Would you favor the immediate closing of a plant that was polluting the air in your town if it meant the loss of a major employer?
☐ Yes ☐ No

8. Which do you think is the most effective means of encouraging a polluting industry to comply with environmental

regulations?
☐ Tax incentives ☐ Fines ☐ Education ☐ Consumer boycotts

9. If you lived in an underdeveloped and economically depressed area and had only the following two choices, would you prefer the development of a tourist industry that would bring in thousands of visitors each year, or the development of a paper mill that would provide needed jobs?
☐ Paper mill ☐ Tourist industry

10. Would you be willing to travel an extra half-hour each way to work if it meant that the construction of an expensive and controversial bridge over an unspoiled waterway would be halted?
☐ Yes ☐ No

11. At what level should acceptable amounts of pollution be determined?
☐ Local ☐ National ☐ International

12. At what level should punishment for non-compliance with pollution standards be enforced?
☐ Local ☐ National ☐ International

13. Do you feel less threatened seeing white smoke coming from smokestacks than by seeing black smoke?
☐ Yes ☐ No

14. If organically grown vegetables cost the same as vegetables sprayed with pesticides, would you choose to buy organically grown vegetables, which would not stay as fresh as long as those sprayed with pesticides?
☐ Yes ☐ No

15. If acid-rain problems in parts of Canada are directly attributable to US manufacturing industries, should the Canadian citizens seek class-action suits against the industries, or is it a matter better left to be settled between the respective governments?
☐ Citizens ☐ Governments

16. Which type of energy generation do you think will dominate the future?
☐ Fossil ☐ Nuclear ☐ Solar ☐ Hydro ☐ Other

17. Would you be more inclined to separate recyclable products and deliver them to recycling centers if there were incentives such as money or prizes for doing so?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Already recycle

18. Regardless of your personal taste, which do you consider better for your country in general?
☐ Three pairs of inexpensive shoes that would last one year and create more work for shoemakers ☐ Single pair of expensive shoes that would last three years and conserve resources like leather

19. Who do you hold most responsible for the decline in the number of wild African elephants from nearly 1.2 million to approximately 500,000 today?
☐ Producers of ivory products ☐ Consumers of ivory products ☐ Governments that don't prevent poaching ☐ Poachers

20. Who do you think should be held

legally liable for the injury, death and destruction from erosion, floods and landslides directly caused by the over-cutting of trees in tropical rain forests?
☐ Logging industries ☐ Industries purchasing large quantities of timber ☐ Governments not preventing destructive logging practices ☐ No one can be held legally liable

21. Which do you consider the most serious consequence of a widening hole in the ozone layer?
☐ Droughts ☐ Melting of polar icecaps ☐ Increased skin-cancer levels

22. Does China have the right to reach its goal of producing a refrigerator for every household in the country even if it means a drastic increase in the level of CFCs that are destroying the ozone layer?
☐ Yes ☐ No

23. Do you think that a debt-for-nature swap, in which overseas groups give money for conservation efforts in a debtor country by paying off parts of its country's outstanding foreign debts at discounted rates, is a form of "neo-colonialism"?
☐ Yes ☐ No

24. Are the Japanese justified in feeling maligned by the West on the whaling issue, since they view sea creatures as food the way Westerners view cattle?
☐ Yes ☐ No

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The drive for democracy in Jordan

By Dr. As'ad Abdul Rahman

Many factors, some internal and some external, have helped to speed up the transition to democracy and plurality in Jordan. These factors vary in the degree of their importance and intensity. While some are deeply rooted and indirect, others are more direct and conspicuous. But they all are dialectically interrelated. Yet, the degree of their importance varies in relation to their chronology. They are, more or less, a chain of interrelated reactions and counter reactions.

All factors that contributed to this change of attitude can be classified under two main headings: Internal and external factors. Because the external factors are more conspicuous and direct, it seems logical enough to unravel them first:

External factors

Jordan is not a remote island in a vast ocean totally disconnected from its surroundings. To the contrary, it lies in the heart of a strategic and important area. The advent of the information revolution has rendered the world smaller; naturally, events taking place elsewhere on the globe (particularly in Eastern Europe, where the rising tide of liberalism and democratization was initiated by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev) have, no doubt, raised hopes of a similar change in many places. Calls for democracy and plurality began to be heard louder than ever. Such calls, coupled with rising domestic discontent in several parts of the Arab world (which will be discussed in more details later) have finally brought the desired change starting with occupied Palestine, Algeria, Jordan and other Arab countries.

Jordan was clearly influenced by the peaceful (though in other cases tumultuous, sometimes bloody) transition to democracy and plurality that was taking place in Eastern Europe. In the occupied territories, the effect of the events in Eastern Europe took the form of a widespread and popular democratic uprising against the occupation. In Algeria, the change was brought about by the positive response of the Algerian President after an abrupt and swift uprising against an ossified and highly oppressive bureaucracy.

While the drive towards democracy and plurality was at its height elsewhere in the world, internal discontent in Jordan was simmering. When some violence finally broke out in April of 1989, the road had been paved for the drastic change.

What are the internal factors, then, that led to the mounting discontent, and how were they utilized to bring about the long-desired change?

Internal factors:

The mere fact that we are openly discussing the internal factors here indicates the extent of the liberal change that has occurred in Jordan. Only a year ago, to even mention such subjects was taboo. Details about the internal situation in Jordan as it was in the past were uncovered recently to the public by elected members of parliament, ministers, the press and some influential and highly informed national figures, thanks to the present era of openness. This allows us to talk about facts based on knowledgeable sources and not mere speculations.

It is obvious that internal factors encompass a web of economic, political and social ingredients. Economically, and contrary to long-established sound monetary traditions, Jordan became plagued by a huge debt which exceeded \$8 billion. Despite the glut from oil re-

venues, Arab financial assistance and the increase in the transfers of Jordanian expatriates abroad (which reached almost \$1.25 billion per year), the trend of Jordan's borrowing was rising steadily particularly after the mid eighties. As the flow of money into Jordan was on the decrease, talk about corruption, whether governmental, public or private, increased.

All such talk will remain inconsequential until it is legally confirmed by the ad hoc legal committee set up by the parliament to investigate the issue. Some cases of corruption, as revealed recently in the press, however, are clear enough and do not need much further legal authentication. What has made matters worse is the rising rate of unemployment which hit hard wide sectors of the population. Estimates vary from a conservative rate of 12 per cent to a radical 25 per cent. In this dire economic situation, the rich were becoming richer, the poor poorer and wide sectors of the middle class were being plunged even deeper into deprivation as inflation skyrocketed to unprecedented levels.

As the economic situation worsened, wider and wider sectors of the population became more impoverished. The situation was aggravated by the continued deterioration in the purchase value of the dinar, especially after the legal and administrative disengagement from the West Bank. The drain in Jordan's meagre foreign currency reserves increased as local capital began to leak out as a result of this insur-



and the hostile attitudes of some groups towards the Intifada and the PLO) all caused wide-spread elation and disillusionment. Such political factors, both foreign and local, coupled with the worsening economic conditions, produced a highly flammable situation that awaited the final spark to explode.

On another level, the social fabric of the country had taken big strides towards modernization. This social growth was incommensurate with the outdated political traditions prevailing. Jordan was, in fact, a socially modern country with a modern King, a modern ruling family, and a developed infrastructure as well as a developed modern schooling system. Under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein, the increasing pace of urbanisation, compulsory education and the number of university graduates have left their unmistakable impact on the over-all social fabric of the country. The political institutions and traditions by which the country was governed were then considered anachronistic and inconsistent. Demands for political modernisation and reform were intensified. This incongruity between the social and the political structures of the society stirred social unrest.

The interaction of the unfavourable economic, political and social factors were the underlying causes behind the outbreak of the bloody events in southern Jordan in April 1989. Events could have taken a bloodier course had it not been for the wise, pragmatic and understanding approach taken in tackling the problem. A bloody confrontation seemed imminent but was narrowly averted, thanks to the wisdom and courage of the Head of Jordan's political system, King Hussein, wise and far-sighted, quickly aligned himself with the forces of democracy and liberalism. This greatly contributed to the initiation of the process of transition and provided guarantees that it continues smoothly and peacefully. Under the premiership of Shereif Zeid bin Shaker, a transitional government was formed and entrusted with the task of leading the country to its first free parliamentary elections in over two decades. Thanks to the diligent and honest attitude of the transitional government, elections were conducted in a free and unbiased manner. After the elections, the newly-appointed government of Mr. Mudar Badran wasted no time in defusing the mounting tension. Martial law was suspended, though not yet completely cancelled, and infringement of people's civil rights was tremendously reduced. These popular measures were welcomed by the people's representatives, and the newly-formed government won the vote of confidence from the newly-elected parliamentarians.

Thus, what at one point seemed a web of highly complicated socio-economic problems gave way to the highly cherished path to democracy and liberalism.

View Point

by
Yacoub Jaber

Super power hypocrisy

WHAT GOOD would come out of the U.N. Security Council's debate on the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israeli and occupied Arab territories?

At best, the Council, barring a U.S. veto, would adopt a resolution pleading with Israel not to settle the new immigrants in the occupied Arab territories. But there are no guarantees that Israel would comply with or even accept such a resolution. The United States has already expressed its opposition to the settlement of the immigrants in the occupied areas, but the opposition is a hypocritical gesture intended for Arab consumption and has no practical value on the ground.

The Soviet Union and the United States can agree on a resolution at the U.N. Security Council, which would voice their common objection to the settlement of the Jewish immigrants in the occupied Arab areas. However, they would do better if they agree outside the Council on certain steps that would minimise the dangers of the Soviet Jewish influx into Israel on the prospects of peace in the Middle East.

For its part, the Soviet Union can argue that such massive immigration threatens peace efforts in the region and therefore it should be controlled. Moscow can still allow immigration but on a limited scale. It can contend that it cannot permit young educated men and women to leave because their country is in need of their skills. It can even declare rightfully and forcibly that immigration should be delayed until a peace settlement to the Palestinian problem is reached.

The United States can do something equally important to stem the danger of the new wave of invasion of Arab land. It may begin by annulling its decision to close its doors before Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union. These immigrants, after all, are seeking a better living which they can find in the United States and not in Israel.

The United States needs also to refrain from allocating additional funds to help the settlement of the Soviet Jews. After all, it is these funds that would enable Israel to go ahead with its plans to settle the newcomers in the occupied Arab areas.

The Security Council convened upon the request of the Soviet Union. But no matter what would be the outcome of the Council's deliberations, Moscow has failed to convince anybody that it is sincere in its effort to spare the Middle East a new explosive situation.

Yacoub Jaber

Insight

By
Dr Nabil Al-Sharif

Tables turned

THE SENSE of euphoria that swept across the Arab world last Monday evening after listening to Iraqi President's speech must have been difficult to explain to non-Arab newsmen and correspondents. What is so unusual about one country threatening another, maintaining that it would retaliate mercilessly if an attack materializes against it, or if its interests are jeopardised? Don't we hear this kind of exchange of threats between countries at war all the time?

Well, from the point of view of Arab masses what President Saddam Hussain stated was quite new, uplifting and morally boosting. Only people who have long been at the receiving end of threats, warnings and imminent danger would be able to appreciate the Iraqi President's move to turn the tables and to exchange the role of the victim with that of the victor and challenger.

The Arab people are not responding to calls for destroying anybody or usurping other people's rights. They are only reacting with encouragement and admiration to an Arab leader's call for preserving the rights of the Arab Nation to survive with honour and dignity.

On the other hand, President Hussain was only letting Israel taste the same brew it has pushing down the throats of our people since its forced creation.

The hypocritical, double-standard logic of the 'civilised' world does not see anything wrong in Israel's annexation of Arab lands, designating an Arab city as its capital, knocking down our facilities of science and development, killing our children, breaking the bones of our young men and women, blowing up houses and puncturing the bellies of our pregnant women.

The Arab masses are euphoric that Israel, which has turned down all calls for peace and co-existence, is finally reminded that intransigence is a double-edged sword!

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Palestinians mark 'Land Day' as Peres fails to form minority government

AMMAN (Star)-- Palestinians across Israel and the occupied territories marked Friday the 14th anniversary of 'Land Day' amid increasing doubts of the ability of Israeli Labour Party leader Shimon Peres to form a minority government after more than three weeks since the coalition government led by Likud Party leader Yitzhak Shamir collapsed.

Palestinian demonstrators defied Israeli military orders and marched through the streets of cities and villages of Galilee, Um Al Fahem, Yatta, Hebron, Nablus, Gaza and Palestinian refugee camps. Police and soldiers attacked demonstrators wounding tens of young men and women and arresting a number of them. At least three Palestinians were reported to have died in the past week.

The demonstrations came at a time when chances of convening US-sponsored Palestinian-Israeli dialogue in Cairo dwindled as the political stalemate in Israel's torpedoes all attempts by Mr Peres to lure religious parties to his side. Mr Shamir, on the other hand, managed to get a proposal to build new settlements in the occupied territories adopted by the Knesset, thus challenging recent US presidential statements on the illegality of settlements in



Palestinian demonstrators (above) marching on 'Land Day', while Labour Party leader Peres continued his deliberations

areas occupied by Israel in the 1967 war.

Meanwhile, Palestinian sources in Amman expressed their pessimism over the chances of a political settlement between Israel and the Palestinians. The number of Jewish immigrants arriving from the Soviet Union in March was estimated at over 5000 at a rate of 1500 to 2000 immigrants a week.



Beirut's Dbayeh camp: No longer a shelter from the storm

THE SMALL Palestine refugee camp of Dbayeh is the only such encampment in the so-called 'Christian enclave' of Lebanon, northeast of Beirut.

Like most of the area's inhabitants, the residents of Dbayeh camp are Christians. The camp's original inhabitants came here from Palestine during and after the 1948 Arab-Israeli hostilities in Palestine.

Over the years, these Christian Palestinians intermarried with local Lebanese Christians and the two communities became intertwined.

As the civil conflict of the past 15 years has centred mainly on the mostly Muslim areas of Lebanon - including heavily populated areas in West Beirut, Tripoli and Sidon - Dbayeh camp was regarded as the safest location for Palestine refugees in the country.

But earlier this year, fighting broke out between rival Christian Lebanese elements - army soldiers commanded by Gen Michel Aoun and Lebanese forces militiamen under Samir Geagea. The battles, involving heavy shelling and artillery fire, were for control of the Christian enclave north of Beirut.

Dbayeh, situated squarely in the middle of the sector some 10 kilometres northeast of Beirut, found itself on the front lines of the battle.

The camp was badly hit by shells, rockets and machine-gun fire as the rival forces battled for control of its strategic hilltop location in early February. More than 20 per cent of Dbayeh's shelters were destroyed or damaged as the Lebanese Forces guns attacked advancing army troops on the rocky hillside near the port of Jounieh.

Like other Palestine refugees in Lebanon, Dbayeh's residents - numbering more than 2,000 peo-



Residents of Dbayeh camp (above) inspect damages caused by artillery to their homes while Geagea (left) and Aoun continue their bloody confrontation in war-torn East Beirut

ple - receive health, education and welfare services from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, UNRWA.

Within two days of the end of the fighting in Dbayeh, UNRWA relief teams had gone into the camp to make initial damage assessments. Some 16 tonnes of flour was sent in to alleviate a severe bread shortage. UNRWA tankers delivered water to the camp.

By mid-March, the camp's ad-hoc emergency committee had received supplies of food - including corned beef, tomato paste and beans - as well as tents, blankets, trousers, rubber boots, sweaters and shirts. A week later, the Agency delivered more flour, corned beef, tomato



paste and broad beans, as well as skimmed milk and sugar.

Because of the mixed nature of the camp, UNRWA and the International Committee of the Red Cross collaborated in donating relief supplies to the local community, for even-handed distribution to Dbayeh's 550 families, without distinction between Palestinians and Lebanese.

Apart from two unfortunate women Palestine refugees who were killed by shelling, Dbayeh's population emerged from the fighting with very few casualties. But they did suffer the discomfort of several days in overcrowded bomb shelters.

And they emerged, like many people in East Beirut, to find their homes wrecked and their belongings and cars destroyed. Like so many Palestine refugees in Lebanon before them, they started rebuilding their shattered lives.

5 APRIL 1990
APRIL 1990



Around Town

Jordanian-German indoor cycling battle in Amman

● This year's indoor cycling season in Jordan will begin this Saturday, with Swiss Air International Artistic Cycling & Cycle Soccer Tournament 90. Five different German teams will battle Jordanian teams at the sports gymnasium of the Jordan University.

The two-day tournament, patronised by Mr Thabet Al Taher, minister of energy and mineral resources, is the first in a series of tournaments organised by the Middle East sports academy (MESA). The academy is preparing for this year's European artistic cycling & cycle soccer championships to take place in Switzerland later next month. MESA teams, which are seeded in the European zone since 1988, will be challenged in Amman this weekend by the highly-ranked teams of Leeden, Moersfelden and Ginsheim.

Headed by Ralf Maier, the senior solo artistic cyclist whose performance exceeds the 300 point mark, the Leeden Team includes three single and double miniders whose counterpart in the Jordanian teams will be Ramez Tahboob, while Sahel Al Ash'hab, the Asian record holder, will be the dark horse for the Jordanian teams which is also joined by his brother, Sami. The events will include gymnastics and ballet combined with artistic cycling, and cycle soccer.



Part of the stolen mosaic

● The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany Dr Herwig Bartels, received the Jordanian doctor Butros Al Taweel, who initiated the cornea operation on 8-year old Jaffer Al Moutam in Germany, in his office on Monday.

Dr Al Taweel informed the ambassador that the specialist who performed the successful operation, Prof. Dr Busse, is due to arrive on a 5-day visit to Amman on 2 May at the invitation of Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zeld.

The ambassador and Dr Al Taweel agreed that the joint Jordanian-German efforts represent a promising beginning for further co-operation in the fields of surgery and organ transplant. They emphasised again that without the generous help of His Majesty King Hussein the medical treatment of the child in Germany could not have been possible.

● The modern Cruise Ship, M/V 'Europa' operated by the German Lines, Hapag-Lloyd A.G. Hamburg, and agent by T. Gorgour and Fils, docked at Amman port last Thursday with 38 passengers on board to visit the historical city of Petra, Wadi Rum and Aqaba as part of its 'all over the world' cruises.

The Ministry of Tourism, and the Ports Corp. of Aqaba has extended all possible facilities to make a successful call to Europa and to encourage such cruises to the

● A 1200-years-old mosaic floor dating to the Umayyad era was stolen last Sunday from the desert palace of Qasr Al Hallabat, 45 kilometres east of Amman. Ministry of Tourism sources said a 30 square metres of mosaic representing the 'Tree of Life' was stolen and that a reward is offered to anyone providing information that could lead to its recovery. Border points were put on alert. Tourism Minister Abdel Karim Al Kabarti said the floor was part of Jordan's cultural wealth.

● Jaanssen Pharmaceuticals will launch its new product (Prepulsid) which is used for Gastroenterological disorders, during a congress taking place at the Plaza Hotel between March 29 and 5 April. Two hundred and forty specialists and their wives are attending the conference. They represent various medical and

pharmaceutical fields.

Prepulsid will be introduced to the Italian market in April 1990 and Jordan was chosen for this venue for two purposes; mainly for its rich tourist and historical sites, and for the creation and motivation for sales to foreign countries. Jaanssen pharmaceuticals is a Belgian company based in Beerse near Antwerp. Besides this new product Jaanssen Pharmaceuticals have launched other major products in anesthetic, cardio-vascular diseases, and psychiatric disorders.



Ramadan Thoughts

The lesson of discipline

IT RAINED this Ramadan. This is something we will all remember for sometime. For the last two decades Ramadan has been coming in the long and hot summer days. The experience we had with Ramadan was that of difficult endurance, of feeling the thirst, the heat of the sun and the laziness. But this season is quite different. Most of all it could help understand the meanings of this month better, simply because the time Ramadan chose to visit us this year was different. One of the greatest lessons of Ramadan is discipline, which we miss in our daily lives.


Discipline is one trait which we lack. Our societies suffer from a number of diseases but the most critical of which is that clear sense of disorientation - not knowing where we go and how. We lack discipline and thus we lack organisation, and clear perception of our goals and objectives in life. We see this lack of discipline at all levels of human activity, in schools, at work, while shopping, conducting business and even taking the simplest resolutions.

Ramadan is one effective way to re-introduce discipline back into our lives. It teaches us to be patient, to prepare for the coming stages, to organise our daily activity, to wait before moving on and to think about what is around us. This great characteristic is a hallmark of Ramadan. What better way to get all the society moving according to one plan, synchronising its activities, in fasting, praying, dealing with its members, in breakfasting and in worshipping the one God.

And when one member of society breaks this discipline he or she can feel the pressure of leaving the herd, or being alone, and of seeing the foolishness of his or her doing.

The great thing about keeping discipline during Ramadan is that you answer only to God and nobody else. That test of endurance is within yourself for you only can determine if you passed the test or not. The lessons of discipline should not only be followed in Ramadan, but should become a habit - a good one in everyday life.

Ibrahim Zeln



Agenda

Films

● The American Center presents the feature film 'An American in Paris' starring Gene Kelly, Thursday 5 April and Sunday 8 April at 3:00 pm.

● The French Cultural Centre presents the feature film 'Remontons les Champs Elysees' starring J. Delubac and Lucien Baron, Tuesday 10 April at 8:30 pm.

Exhibitions

● The French Cultural Centre presents an exhibition entitled 'Mathematiques en Mediterranee' starting Monday 9 April and running until 29 April.

● Also at the French Cultural Centre an art exhibition of Ahmad Nawash's painting will continue until Sunday 8 April.

Trips

● Friends of Archaeology will organise a trip to Tell Saldye and Dolmen field, Friday 6 April at 8:30 am in front of Amra Hotel.

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Aufgrund neuer Rechtslage koennen kuenftig Oesterreicher auch im Ausland an Oesterreichischen Bundeswahlen und bundesweiten Volksabstimmungen teilnehmen. Dies wird erstmals bei den Nationalratswahlen am 7. Oktober 1990 moeglich sein. Voraussetzung ist zunaechst die Eintragung in die Waehlervidenz einer oesterreichischen Gemeinde.

Diesbezuegliche Antragsformulare sind ab sofort bei der Botschaft erhaeltlich. Fuer Auskuenfte steht die Botschaft (Tel. 644635) zur Veruegung.

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Programmes of Jordan Television from 7-13 April



"Surgical Spirit" - comedy, Saturday at 18:30 pm

ENGLISH PROGRAMME

Saturday:
8:30 - Surgical Spirit (comedy).
9:00 - Encounter, hosted by Rami Khouri.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - Feature Film (to be announced later).

Sunday:
8:30 - Who's The Boss: Tony and his school-mates plan a party in which Angela is invited to sing.
9:10 - World of Puppetry (documentary): Albrecht Roser - A highly original and adroit West German marionettist, Albrecht Roser's earliest success came in 1951 with the marionette clown Gustaf. Roser's performances are designed for adult audiences and his unique format contains scenes full of both comedy and pathos. He is generally regarded as the world's finest marionette artist.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - Agatha Christie's Poirot: Peril at End House, part 2.

Monday:
8:30 - Empty Nest (comedy): Too much motivation... can be dangerous.
9:10 - Tusitala: The continuing story of the life of Robert Louis Stevenson in Samoa. In part four the whites reject a peace initiative presented by the leader of the Samoans.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 FIFA Soccer.

Tuesday:
8:30 - Charles in Charge (comedy).
9:10 - Scientific Legacy of the Arab World: Arab contribution to civilisation: In this first episode of this documentary, a glimpse of the past and the progress of knowledge.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - In the heat of the night (suspense).

Wednesday:
8:30 - Laura and Disorder: Laura's notorious reputation haunts her son Howard everywhere. Her shocking actions lead her to take residence as a squatter with her new friend Oberon and live in the same style.
9:10 - A Horseman Ridin' By: (The Party's) Krandall studies in beautiful mansion and tries to make himself useful.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - Guts and Glory, the rise and fall of Oliver North. In this episode the core of the scandal explodes...

Thursday:
8:30 - The Bill Cosby Show: Rudy protests the hard rules of the house... and strikes a deal with her parents.
9:10 - Basketball.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - Feature Film: Tell Them Willie Boy is Here. Starring Robert Redford and Katharine Ross: The Red Indians ordeal at the hands of the white man who was bent on changing their ways.

Friday:
8:30 - The Robert Guillaume Show (Together again) scheming and hoping... will Edward's schemes succeed?
9:10 - Beauty and the Beast: In part two, Vincent struggles to save a pregnant Katherine from her kidnappers.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - Quincey (Dead and Alive): The mysterious story of a dead man who is not... completely dead.

FRENCH PROGRAMME

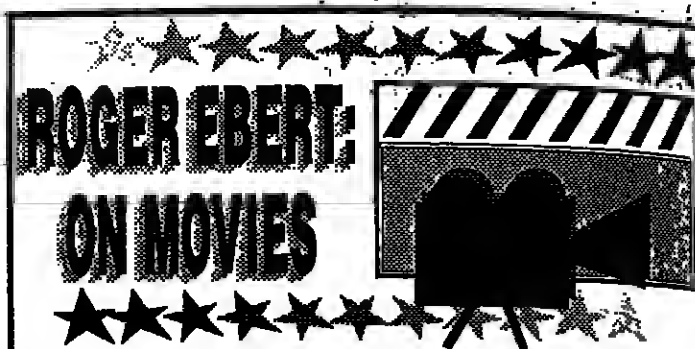
Saturday:
6:00 - Cousteau: A la redécouverte du monde: A documentary featuring the different steps Jacques Cousteau the famous French scientist undertook on a trip around the world.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - Sauvage et beau: A documentary.

Sunday:
6:00 - Des Chiffres et Des Lettres: A game show.
6:15 - L'école des fans: A programme for children presented by Jacques Martin. Today's guest is Merlene Jobert.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - Aujourd'hui en France: A cultural magazine.

Monday:
5:40 - La Lettre Perdue: A French film about a dying little girl who gets lots of moral help from a seemingly old boy who writes her cheerful letters but appearance can be deceiving.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - Weekly Sports Magazine.

Tuesday:
6:00 - Des Chiffres et Des Lettres: A game show.
6:20 - Intertropiques: A documentary magazine dealing with various topics such as the World Health Organisation, insects and extracting medicine from herbs.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - Aujourd'hui en France: A local magazine by Saleh Madi.

Wednesday:
6:00 - La Vallée en carton (2): A drama series: As we continue to trace the life of Linda de Souza we will see her first love and her first beginning as a singer.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - Le cycle des fleurs: A documentary about life cycle of flowers starting from seed to a full blossom.



The hunt for red October

Three and a half stars

Marko Ramius Sean Connery
Jack Ryan Alec Baldwin
Bart Mancuso Scott Glenn
Capt. Borodin Sam Neill
Admiral Greer James Earl Jones
Andrei Lysenko Joss Ackland
Jeffrey Pei Richard Jordan

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS a film directed by John McTiernan and produced by Mace Neufeld. Screenplay by Larry Ferguson and Donald Stewart, based on the novel by Tom Clancy. Photographed by Jan De Bont. Edited by Dennis Virkler and John Wright. Music by Basil Poledouris. Classified PG.

The movies have one sure way of involving us that never fails. They give us a character who is right when everybody else is wrong and then invite us to share his frustration as he tries to talk some sense into the blockheads. In "The Hunt for Red October," that character is Jack Ryan, the intelligence man who believes he knows the real reason why a renegade Soviet skipper is trying to run away with a submarine.

The skipper's name is Ramius, and he is the most respected man in the Soviet underwater navy. He has trained most of the other captains in the fleet, and now he has been given the controls of an advanced new submarine named Red October - a sub that uses a revolutionary new drive that is faster than any other ship beneath the waves and almost completely silent. American intelligence tracks the Red October as it leaves its Soviet shipyard, but then the sub seems to disappear - and, soon after, the entire Soviet navy mobilises itself into a vast cat-and-mouse game in the North Atlantic.

The Soviets would like their American counterparts to believe that Ramius is a madman who wants to hide his sub off the American coast and aim its nuclear missiles at New York or Washington. They ask the US Navy to help them track and destroy the Red October. But Ryan (Alec Baldwin) believes that would be a tragic mistake. He tells his superior, an admiral played by James Earl Jones, that Ramius is actually trying to defect and to bring his submarine along with him.

That is the setup for John McTiernan's film, as it was for Tom Clancy's best-selling novel, and in both cases it is also the starting point for a labyrinthine plot in which, half of the time, we have to guess at the hidden reason for Ramius' actions. It is a tribute to the movie, which has much less time than Clancy did at book length, that it allows the plot its full complexity and yet is never less than clear to the audience.

Many military thrillers, especially those set in the Cold War period, rely on stereotyping and large, crude motivations to move their stories along. "The Hunt for Red October" has more fun by suggesting how easily men can go wrong, how false assumptions can seem seductive, and how enormous consequences can sometimes hang by slender threads. Ryan's knowledge of Ramius' personality, for example, upon which so much depends, is based almost entirely on one occasion when they dined at the same table. Everything else is simply a series of skilled hunches.

"The Hunt for Red October" has more than a dozen important speaking roles, in addition to many more cast members who are crucial for a scene or two, and any film with a cast this large must depend to some extent on type-casting. We couldn't keep the characters straight any other way. What McTiernan does is to typecast without stereotyping. Sean Connery makes a convincing Ramius, and yet, with his barely concealed Scots accent, he is far from being a typical movie Soviet. Alec Baldwin, as the dogged intelligence officer, has the looks of a leading man, but he dials down his personality - he presents himself as a deck-bound bureaucrat who can't believe he has actually gotten himself into this field exercise. And Scott Glenn, as the commander of a US submarine that finds itself within yards of the silent Red October, is leaner, younger, and has more edge than most of the standard movie skipper types.

If there's one area where the movie is truly less than impressive, it's the underwater exterior shots. Using models of submarines, the filmmakers have attempted to give an impression of these behemoths maneuvering under the sea. But the outside of a submarine is not intrinsically photogenic, and what these shots most look like are large, grey, bloated whales seen through dishwater.

There was only one question that bothered me throughout the movie. As one whose basic ideas about submarines come from Commander Edward Beach's classic "Run Silent, Run Deep," in which the on-board oxygen supply was a source of constant concern, I kept asking myself if those Russian sailors should be knocking so much down there in the depths of the ocean.

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Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. year round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al-Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries, and a collection of paintings by 19th century Orientalist artists. Muntazah. Jabal Welbeh. Hours 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Churches

St. Joseph Church: (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation: (Roman Catholic) Jabal Welbeh, Tel. 637440.

De la Sulle Church: (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661757.

Terrosanta Church: (Roman Catholic), Jabal Welbeh, mass in Italian every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366.

Church of the Annunciation: (Greek Orthodox) Abilali, Tel. 623541.

Church of the Redeemer: Jabal Amman, Tel. 625383.

Armenian Orthodox Church: Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church: (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church: (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 827981

Church of the Good Shepherd: (Evangelical Lutheran) Um As-Summaq Tel. 811295.

Marbella 52	
Majorca 71	
St. Lanka	94
Colombo 1	
Sudan	249
Khartoum 11	
Sweden	46
Stockholm 8	
Syria	963
Damascus 11	
Taiwan	886
Taipei 2	
Thailand	66
Bangkok 2	
Tunisia	216
Tunis 1	
Turkey	90
Ankara 4	
Istanbul 1	
UAE	971
Abu Dhabi 2	
Ajman 6	
Al Ain 3	
Dubai 4	
Fujairah 70	
Ghayath 52	
Ras al Khaimah 77	
Sharjah 6	
Umm Al Quwain 6	
UK	44
London 1	
Uruguay	598
Montevideo 2	
USA	1
New York 212/718	
Washington 202	
USSR	7
Moscow 095	
Vancouver	58
Canada 2	
Yugoslavia	38

Crossword Puzzle

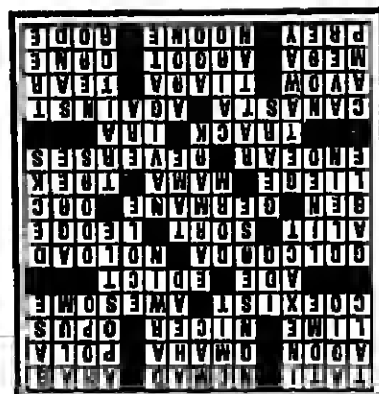
ACROSS

- 1 M. Hulot of films
- 6 Redoubt
- 10 "Paquod" captain
- 14 Oramatic conflict
- 15 Missouri River city
- 16 — Nagri
- 17 Citrus tree
- 18 Mors subtile
- 19 Work
- 20 Avoid
- 22 Impressive
- 24 "Fables in Slang" author
- 25 Decree
- 26 Source of great wealth
- 30 Fund type
- 34 Olamoured
- 35 Type
- 37 Shell

DOWN

- 1 Powder
- 2 Exchange premium
- 3 Volume
- 4 Not precise
- 5 Twiddle
- 6 Skip
- 7 Singer Davis
- 8 In the lead
- 9 Evolution
- 10 One of twaiys
- 11 — say —
- 12 Astringent
- 13 Mean
- 14 Bachelor's last words
- 15 Lyceum
- 16 Characteristic
- 17 Rhetoric
- 18 Fal part
- 19 Striped
- 20 Col. quarters
- 21 Acquaintance
- 22 Ilke
- 23 Knock down
- 24 Ooille
- 25 Cogwheels
- 26 Plot a course
- 27 Bank robber's concern
- 28 Verban
- 29 Apropos
- 30 Killar whale
- 31 Faithful
- 32 Parant
- 33 Migration
- 34 Evokes affection
- 35 Setbacks
- 36 Racing sport
- 37 Nest egg
- 38 Card game
- 39 Con
- 40 Acknowledges
- 41 Headdress
- 42 Move hostilely
- 43 Suite
- 44 Special vocabulary
- 45 Sarah — Jewett
- 46 Victim
- 47 Not a soul
- 48 Took a bus

Solution



Jordan Bridge

By Ghassan Ghanem

Fragile-- handle with care

HOLDING THE west hand, you reached the 3N contract in a teams contest, the ♠K was led from your left:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| (West) | (East) |
| ♠ Q5 | ♠ AJ72 |
| ♥ AQ9432 | ♥ — |
| ♦ Q | ♦ AK10984 |
| ♣ A432 | ♣ Q106 |

Not a very friendly lead. How do you play the hand?

The hand came in Colombo on 1987, the only player who represented Jordan in both Asia and Middle East championship in Colombo and Cairo on 1987 and 1989 was Zaha Mango, keeping in mind that she was playing teams and maximum safety should be considered, Zaha won the ♠K with the ♠A from dummy and unblocked her ♠Q in the process, again she unblocked her ♠Q under the ♠A and continued the diamonds until ♠A was taken. Later on she went to the dummy with the ♠J to enjoy the established diamonds and made nine tricks via two spades, one heart, five diamonds and one club trick. The full hand was:

As you can realise after the whole hand is exposed, there is no practical line to make the hand apart from this double unblocking line.

Did you find the right line? If you played quickly on the first trick you probably went down, the significant point of this hand and all hands is that you should pause for thinking directly after the lead and should not play from dummy until you construct your plan for the hand.

The hand is not difficult, and the successful line is easy to find if you think for a while after the lead.

At present Mrs Mango and Mrs Majida Muasher are helping organize a bridge activity to support M.A.P. (Medical Aid for Palestinians). We urge all bridge enthusiasts to participate in that activity to achieve a successful event for such a noble cause and duty.

JEANE DIXON'S Your Horoscope



ARIES (21 March - 19 April): Seek out influential contacts. Your gracious manner charms someone in a position to aid your career. Self-improvement projects are favoured. Keep any diet or exercise resolutions. A candid chat with your mate or partner will clear the air. An optimistic friend lifts your spirits. Offer a helping hand to someone who may be shy about asking for assistance.

TAURUS (20 April - 20 May): You could decide to make a number of changes in your personal life now. Mate is your stronger ally. Express your creativity in profitable ways. Find new outlets for your artistic talents. Seek quiet surroundings where you can work. A friend who likes to chatter can waste valuable time. Be kind but firm! Discuss a recent disappointment honestly. A new relationship needs nurturing.

GEMINI (21 May - 20 June): Team up with an old friend if thinking about starting a new business. Your ability to make quick decisions helps you out of a family dilemma. Shared experiences draw you and mate closer together. Keep a tighter rein on spending. Tackle the chores you most dread at the earliest opportunity. Your emotions will be on an even keel. Financial deals and real estate transactions are a top priority.

CANCER (21 June - 22 July): A friend asks a special favour. Be flexible when dealing with a teen-ager and your relationship will become more harmonious. A former flame returns. Do not take this person's promises too seriously. Be aggressive about displaying your skills to important people. A new project will benefit from your involvement and become a showcase for your creativity. Your social life accelerates.

LEO (23 July - 22 Aug.): Your spiritual values come into clearer focus. A new personal relationship is in the spotlight. Your loyalty to your family will be tested. A young person plays a key role in your happiness. You could be going through the process of assessing emotional connections. Try not to dwell on possible problems. Widen your social horizons by doing some entertaining. Limit spending.

VIRGO (23 Aug. - 22 Sept.): The emphasis this week is on making constructive changes. A platonic relationship intensifies. Seek advice on turning a hobby into a money-making venture. Experts can save you time and money. You may be searching for security in a relationship but have private doubts about where your true happiness lies. Work is excellent therapy.

LIBRA (23 Sept. - 22 Oct.): Tensions lighten when secrets are revealed. A longtime dream can come true if you play your cards right. An exchange of ideas with a newcomer could lead to an exciting friendship. Assume the role of peacemaker in a business flap. Others will reveal their motives without even realising it. Keep the atmosphere at home happy and relaxed. Guard a friend's secret as you would your own.

SCORPIO (23 Oct. - 21 Nov.): Follow through on a project that is close to your heart; it has an excellent chance of succeeding. Do not give your ideas away for free. Romance has you walking on air. You get a wonderful opportunity to put a new idea across. The time is right to push for a promotion. Rely on your mate or partner for help on a secret project.

SAGITTARIUS (22 Nov. - 21 Dec.): You can gain fresh insights from reading the daily newspaper. You have greater resources than you think. Cut the apron strings let younger family members make more decisions on their own. Tact will help you settle a personnel problem. A troubled alliance can be salvaged if you surrender certain illusions. A chronic health problem responds to new treatment.

CAPRICORN (22 Dec. - 19 Jan.): It is never too late to organise a small social gathering. Get on the phone and invite friends and neighbours who might otherwise be alone. If they offer to bring something, let them! Long-term plans are fueled and ready to soar. Obtaining widespread support or a public agreement could pay high returns. Stir things up! Action breeds success. Your home life is worth sharing this week.

AQUARIUS (20 Jan. - 18 Feb.): Do not expect to get too much work done this week. Devote quality time to your mate and children. Reconciling with an old schoolmate gives you an idea. Check the weekend newspapers for job leads. Mishaps with money are still a possibility. Be thrifty and pay attention to detail. Keep track of the clock, time flies and you could be running late. A relationship begins to intensify.

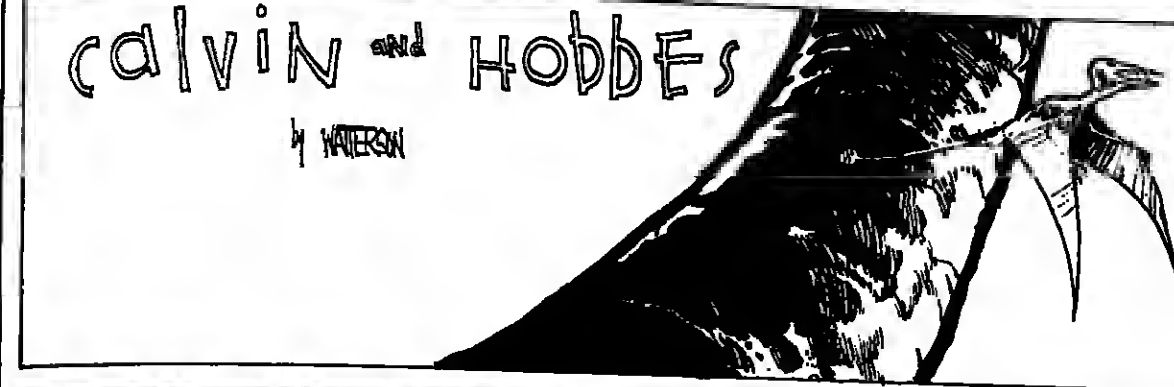
PISCES (19 Feb. - 20 March): A sermon proves inspiring. Look for the humor in everything that happens. Be your usual helpful self and visit an older person. Romance shifts gears. Be careful not to go too fast. A harmonious work environment makes this a good week for reaching agreements. You could win when joint profits are the topic. A stranger offers some timely tips on investing. Romance looks promising.

THIS WEEK'S CHILDREN are courageous, sensitive and resourceful. They tend to be voracious readers. Wise parents will find new ways to keep these youngsters challenged, even if it means changing schools. These Aries put a lot of faith in their heroes and can be devastated if they admire turn-out to have feet of clay. They glow when praised and will work hard to top their previous efforts. If teased, they can live all or die in a day. They need more sleep than other signs.

COMICS

calvin and hobbes

by WATSON



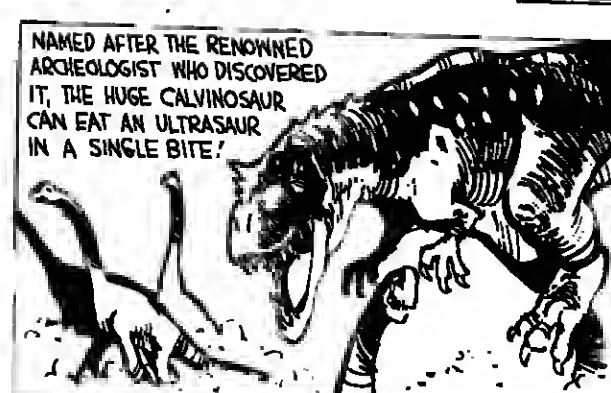
140 MILLION YEARS AGO, THE INCREDIBLE 'ULTRASAUROS' WANDERED THE EARTH! SOME WEIGH OVER 10 TONS, AND EVEN THE VICIOUS ALLOSAUROS ARE NO MATCH FOR THESE GIANTS!



BUT WAIT! A DISTANT RUMBLING SENDS THE ULTRASAUROS INTO A PANICKED STAMPEDE! IS IT A VOLCANO? IS IT AN EARTHQUAKE?



NO! IT'S A CALVINOSAURUS!

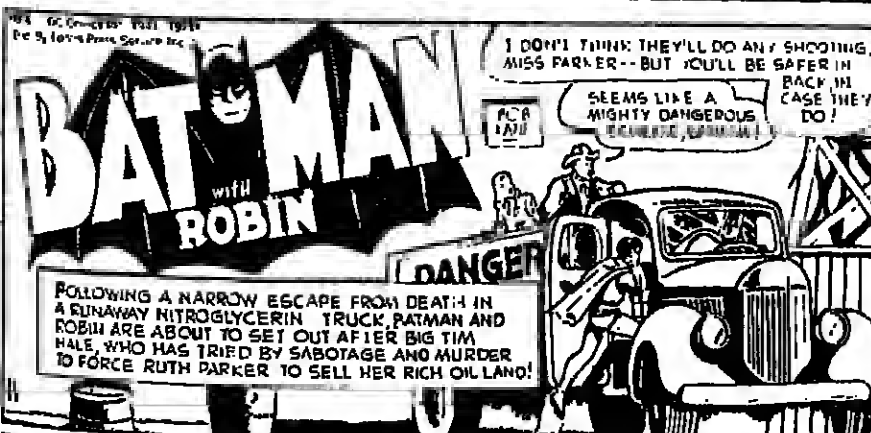


NAMED AFTER THE RENOWNED ARCHEOLOGIST WHO DISCOVERED IT, THE HUGE CALVINOSAUR CAN EAT AN ULTRASAUROS IN A SINGLE BITE!



PHOOEY! I NEVER FIND ANYTHING.

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE HIT THE SEWER PIPE.



I'LL GET THE BATMAN! I'LL STOP HIM!

NIX, STUPID! YOU'RE LIABLE TO HIT THE NITRO, OR THE TRUCK MIGHT OVERTURN!



THEY'RE TRYING TO RUN FOR IT IN THAT CAR--AND IT'S FASTER THAN THIS TRUCK!



OHH! THE WAY THEY'RE TAKIN' THOSE BUMPS, THEY'RE LIKELY TO BLOW UP ANY MINUTE! AND US WITH 'EM!



IF I COULD ONLY TAKE A SHOT AT 'EM!



JUMPING AND SKIDDING DANGEROUSLY, THE NITRO TRUCK CREEPS UP BEHIND THE TOURING CAR!



OHAY! YOU'VE GOT US TWICE READY TO CRASH! BUT MY WAY IF BATMAN HADN'T BEEN COZY ENOUGH TO CAUSE US IN THAT NITRO BUSTY!

FOLKS LIKE YOU WHO COMMIT CRIMES ARE CRAZY--BUT NOT NECESSARILY. FOLKS WHO CATCH 'EM, LIKE BATMAN!



WE DIDN'T LIKE THE IDEA OF BEING KILLED ANY MORE THAN YOU DID--SO WE TOOK THE NITROGLYCERIN OUT OF THE TRUCK BEFORE WE CHARGED YOU!



IF ONLY DAD COULD HAVE SEEN THIS! HE FOUGHT BIG TIM FOR YEARS, AND NOBODY INDOUBT HE HAD A CHANCE OF WINNING!



HE KNEW HE HAD A CHANCE--AND HE MUST HAVE KNOWN! YOU'VE WON SOME DAY! MEN LIKE BIG TIM ARE ALWAYS LOSERS IN THE LONG RUN!



NEXT MORNING AS A PLANE WINGS TOWARD DISTANT GOTHAM CITY...